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NOVEMBER 1974

VEGETABLE Situation

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OUTLOOK CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 9-12, 1974

"U.S. Agriculture in the World Economy" is the theme for the 1975 National Outlook Conference to be held December 9-12 at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

The conference will feature presentations and panel discussions. Particular attention will be given to the outlook for agriculture and the general economy in 1975. Sessions on the 1975 outlook for major commodities, foreign trade, and rural family living will make up an important part of the conference as usual. USDA's Economic Research Service and Extension Service sponsor the conference. More time will be available for commodity sessions. The schedule for individual sessions will be announced later. As in the past, a session will be devoted to the outlook for vegetables.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

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Approved by
The Outlook and Situation Board
and Summary released
October 23, 1974

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The *Vegetable Situation* is published in January, May, August, and November.

SUMMARY

Fresh market vegetable prices received by growers have declined seasonally, but not as sharply as in 1973. For the balance of the year higher prices than last fall are likely because the acreage for fall harvest is off 8 percent. Much of this decline is in Western lettuce and carrots plus reduced Florida tomato plantings.

Also, retail fresh vegetable prices generally will be higher than a year earlier during the fall. Higher retail prices in 1974 are the result of wider margins much of the year, but this fall, smaller supplies will be a factor, too.

Moderately larger supplies of *processed vegetables* are likely for the new marketing season. But the picture is not a balanced one, since the gains are concentrated in the tomato lines and in frozen items. In contrast, the supply of canned vegetables exclusive of tomatoes will likely be about the same as the tight supply of the 1973/74 season. A larger supply of frozen vegetables, the possibility of a significant off-season frozen pack again in California, plus some winter harvest green beans for canning in Florida, and some additional frozen imports from Mexico, would partly ease the situation. So, we will not run out of processed vegetables, but our vegetable choices in 1974/75 may be different.

Disappearance of processed vegetables in 1974/75 can be expected to hold close to or fall slightly below the previous season despite the probability of a larger total supply. This is due to the static economy and to more plentiful supplies of other foods like rice, pasta products, dry beans, and dry peas.

U.S. fall *potato* production is expected to be 287 million cwt., a record crop 13 percent above last year. Production in the Eastern States is up 23 percent while the Central States have 13 percent more and there is a tenth larger crop in the West. Grower prices can be expected to be lower even with the need for larger supplies for processing purposes. The size of this crop would indicate at most a moderate rise in prices through the storage season.

At 7 percent larger *sweetpotato* crop has recently lowered grower prices for both fresh marketing and processing below a year earlier.

Increased acreage and good yields have pushed U.S. *dry bean* production to 22 million cwt., 31 percent more than last year. A crop this large will easily furnish

domestic canners and dry pack users with plentiful supplies, not to mention the prospect of a larger volume for export trade. Grower prices have been moving steadily downward since the March peak. Further selective declines by class are likely and prices will likely be near their lowest levels this winter.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLOOK

FRESH VEGETABLES

Lower Prices to Growers

Fresh vegetable prices have averaged lower than a year ago thus far in 1974. Record high onion prices were largely responsible for the high level of prices received by farmers for vegetables in the spring of 1973. Month by month comparisons show that by August and September prices moved above a year earlier. The usual seasonal decline in prices was much less severe this year despite likely heavier than usual home garden output. Fall vegetable prices will probably be materially higher than a year ago when prices dropped substantially between the third and fourth quarters. At that time lettuce prices, which are another important item in the index, were unusually low.

Quarterly farm prices for fresh vegetables[1]
1967=100

Year	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Annual
1968	123	113	91	108	109
1969	109	109	97	129	111
1970	130	116	102	100	112
1971	129	132	108	140	127
1972	134	130	126	133	131
1973	162	187	147	131	157
1974	151	164	152	150[2]	154[2]

[1] Excludes potatoes. [2] Forecast.

USDA SRS

The total farm value of fresh vegetables produced to June 30 was $692 million, 4 percent less than 1973. This figure, which includes melons but excludes spring onions, reflects the lower price structure of 1974. Tonnage produced in the first half of 1974 was actually 3 percent more than last year. This serves to emphasize price weakness relative to a year ago.

Fresh vegetable prices at retail are averaging higher than a year ago for the last half of this year. Most of the difference will show up in the last quarter. These higher prices are the result of wider marketing margins which cover increased transportation, labor, and material costs.

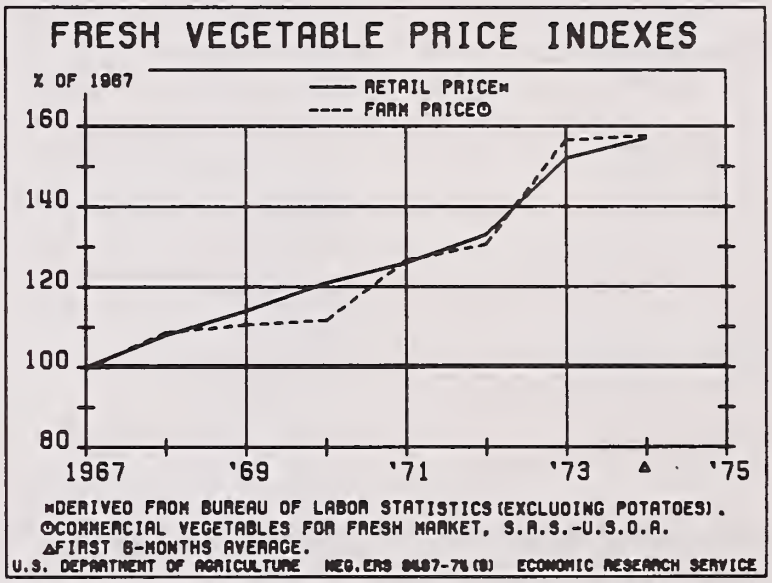
Quarterly retail prices for fresh vegetables[1]
1967=100

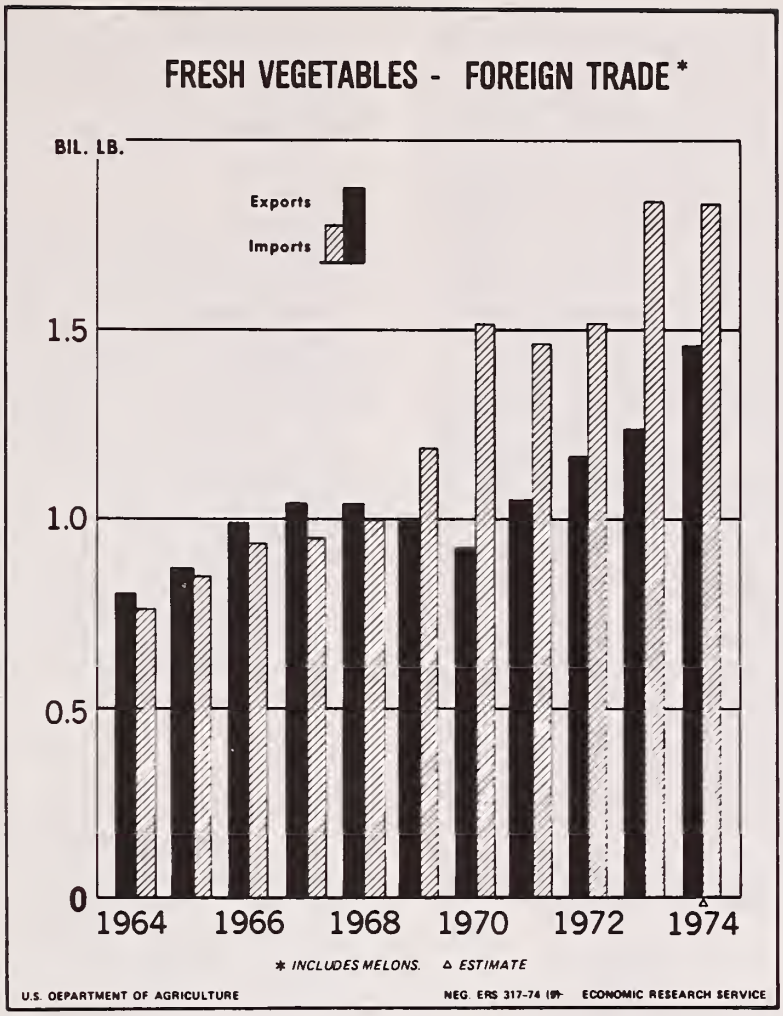
Year	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	Annual
1968	114	113	99	106	108
1969	114	115	106	119	114
1970	130	131	111	111	121
1971	119	137	120	129	126
1972	137	134	128	133	133
1973	151	167	153	138	152
1974	152	163	153	155[2]	156[2]

[1] Excludes potatoes. [2] Forecast.

USDA BLS derived

Fewer Mexican vegetables were imported this year because U.S. total output this past winter was greater and Mexican tomato production was lower than a year





ago. Onions were in better supply from domestic sources this past season, but we did import more melons, peppers, and cucumbers. At this time, import levels for 1974/75 cannot be determined. The long-term trend is for increasing supplies from Mexican sources, and if the United States should resume trade relations with Cuba, the trend to more imports likely would accelerate. In pre-Castro times some Florida vegetable growers were operating in Cuba.

In brief the fresh vegetable supply picture the first half of 1974 was:

Fresh vegetables: First six months supply

Supply	1973	1974
	1,000 cwt.	*1,000 cwt.*
U.S. winter production	31,076	34,741
U.S. spring production	53,835	52,601
U.S. spring onions	5,400	6,267
Total imports	15,990	14,432
Total six months supply	106,301	108,041

Less Fall Acreage

Fall vegetable acreage in the United States is down 8 percent from a year earlier. Potential production, should yields turn out to follow historical averages adjusted for trend, would be 12 percent less.

The acreage cuts this fall come mostly in lettuce and carrots in California. Reduced carrot acreage in Arizona and about a fifth less snap bean plantings in Florida are important factors, too. Tomato acreage in Florida and California is also less this fall, but the decline in Florida may not be fully reflected in later production estimates, because of increased staked acreage which usually yields better than the open field grown crop. Modest acreage gains are noted for cabbage, cauliflower, and sweet corn.

Prospects for Leading Items

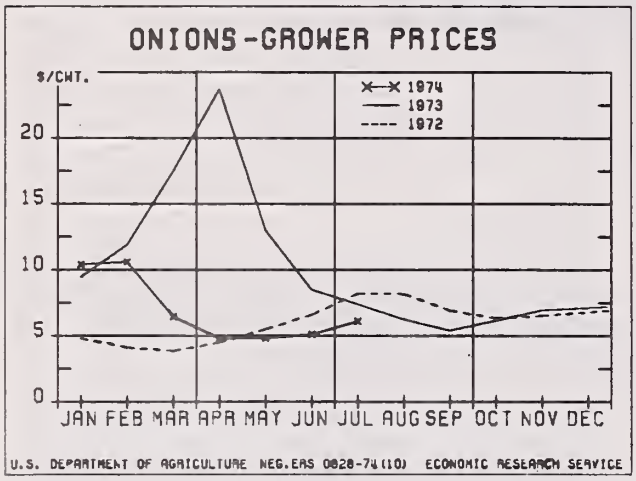
Onions

Summer storage onion production is estimated at 24.8 million cwt., 18 percent above last year. A crop this

large is expected to easily fulfill fresh market, freezing, and dehydrating demand through next winter. U.S. acreage was 7 percent larger and sharply higher yields from California have resulted in this generous crop. In New York, better than average conditions in Orange County helped push yields in that State well above the poor results of prior years. Elsewhere, yields are closer to the average of recent years. In the important Idaho-Eastern Oregon regions the harvested acreage is slightly less, as a hot dry summer contributed to lighter yields than those of 1972 and 1973. Production there is off 8 percent. The Michigan crop is reported equal to the 1973 figure.

Onion shipments from the major U.S. producing areas in the summer quarter were close to 9,000 carlots, a third more than last year. This figure may have included some stock destined for processing, but the bulk probably moved through fresh produce outlets.

Considering the sharp rise in production costs, prices had been depressed for much of the early summer with some improvement more recently, but then in late September, peak harvest activity caused prices to weaken again. The U.S. average price for the first half of September was 6.59 cents per pound against 5.0 cents per pound a year earlier. Harvest activity has been running later than usual in several sections, but at least in Upstate New York, the early freezes had not affected the crop still remaining in the field.



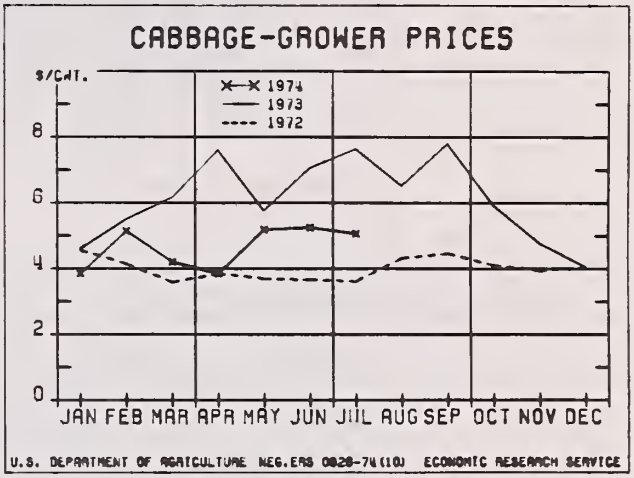
With the prospect of ample to generous storage onion supplies in early 1975, Texas spring crop intentions call for 19,000 acres, 12 percent less than the 1974 plantings.

Cabbage

Acreage for fall harvest in the United States is 32,580, 2 percent larger than a year earlier. With average yields this would suggest a crop 5 percent more. Summer acreage of cabbage was 3 percent more this season and the sharply lower farm prices this past summer implied even larger output. Last year, plant disease took its toll in the Midwest. Western North Carolina prices of $2.50 per crate in late September were within the range of most recent years except 1973. The same has been true for Michigan, New York, and eastern Pennsylvania. In western New York, a large volume has been moving to kraut plants at $30 per ton. Sacked Danish type has been moving from that region at $35-$40 per ton. Cool weather there has proved beneficial for quality.

Fall supplies come from 20 States in commercial quantities. In New York, where heavy supplies and good yields have depressed prices to growers, some acreage may be abandoned. Midwestern States have been plagued by rains and then frost, both of which have affected quality and caused harvesting problems. South Texas harvest started in mid-October, and shipping activity there will continue through the winter. Florida will be shipping throughout the late fall and winter, too. However, the acreage planted for fall harvest in these two States is sharply less than last year.

Prices to growers are expected to average lower than a year earlier for much of the fall marketing season. Prices after Christmas could show some improvement provided that storage stocks in Upstate New York are not excessive.



Celery

Summer celery shipments mostly from California and Michigan, with lesser amounts from New York and Ohio, were substantially larger in the summer quarter even though acreage for harvest was off 4 percent from 1973. In the summer quarter nearly 6,800 cars, or 14 percent more than a year earlier, had been shipped. Grower prices as reported by the SRS were sharply lower during July and August. But, at the beginning of the fall quarter, f.o.b. prices at Salinas, Calif. were $3.25 per crate of 2-1/2 dozen compared with $2.50-$2.75 a year earlier.

Looking at the late fall celery supply situation, acreage growing in Florida and California on October 1 was down to 9,710 acres, 16 percent less than a year earlier. With the prospect of reduced supplies, prices are expected to move above the early October levels.

Carrots

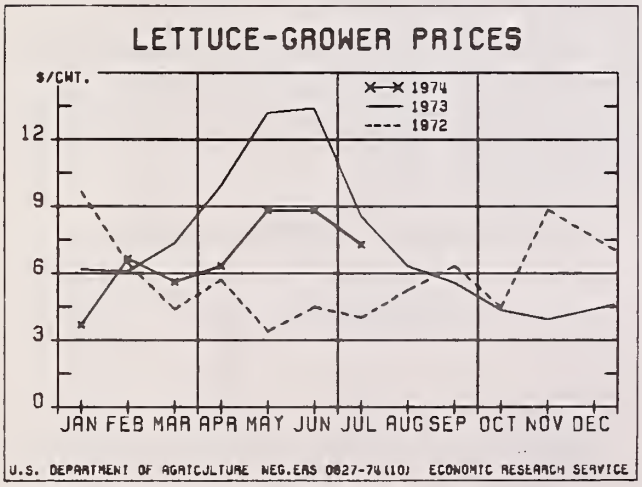
Summer carrot supplies were about a tenth less this season, judging from weekly shipment data. The acreage for harvest was 8 percent less than 1973. Some of this acreage is used for processing, with the bulk of the fresh market shipping activity originating in California plus some additional from Michigan. Salinas shipping point prices have been generally steady in the $4.00-$5.00 per crate range, moderately higher than a year ago.

Fall carrot acreage is 13 percent less than a year ago. Declines in the Midwest, California, and the Texas High Plains are not offset by gains in the Pacific Northwest. Salinas and other Central parts of California will be supplying a large share of the market during the fall quarter. Restricted plantings should mean that present price levels are likely to be maintained.

Lettuce

Relatively low prices have reflected 5 percent larger carlot shipping activity this past summer. Practically all the gain came from California where the acreage for harvest was a tenth larger. However, prices began to move higher with harvest activity winding down seasonally at Salinas. Other California areas plus New Mexico and Arizona points will be contributing to the national supply during October and early November. New Jersey commenced fall shipping activity late in September. Often wholesale prices rise as harvest activity shifts from one region to the other. The Imperial Valley becomes a major supply source usually in early December.

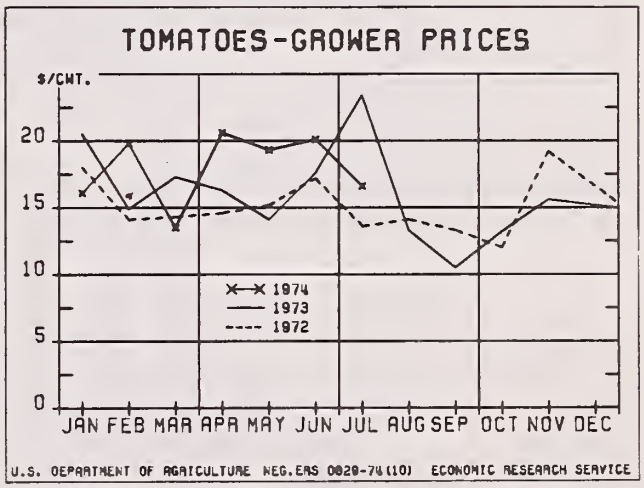
Fall lettuce supplies will be substantially smaller than a year ago since both Arizona and California fall growing districts have cut acreage substantially this season. Prices can be expected to average higher than August and September and sharply higher than last fall. Supplies were generous this time a year ago, and prices of less than $2 per crate were disappointing to the industry. In addition to Arizona and California supplies, some supplies will originate in southern New Jersey and in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas.



Tomatoes

Late in September fresh tomato prices moved higher as supply sources shifted to the more distant-from-market producing areas. Heavy frost abruptly ended market garden activity in the Northeast and Midwest. Although California areas had been shipping throughout the summer, that State now assumes a dominant role with Florida volume building up gradually. By early December Florida will become the major supply source.

As of late September slightly more than 10,000 acres of fall tomatoes had been planted in Florida compared with 12,750 a year earlier. There has been a sharp reduction in Dade County ground plantings, but an additional thousand acres of staked acreage in the Palmetto-Ruskin area suggests considerable production potential from Florida this fall season. This year, the acreage of staked fall tomatoes exceeds ground culture. In other recent years, the reverse has usually been true. Imports from Mexico will commence late in the fall, but peak volumes are not expected until after the first of the year.



Melons

Shipments of cantaloups and honeydews, largely from California, were reduced 17 and 15 percent this past season. By early October, limited supplies of cantaloup remained, and honeydew shipping from the Sacramento

Valley remained active. Other crop alternatives proved attractive enough for California growers so that melon acreage in the State was cut back substantially in 1974. A roughly similar pattern of events likely was responsible for 13 percent smaller watermelon planting in the Southern States this season. Watermelon shipments as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service were off 22 percent from last year.

Cantaloup shipping point prices during August and early September were about 45 percent higher than in 1973. At the same time wholesale watermelon prices exceeding 5 cents per pound also hit record high levels, nearly twice as high as a year earlier.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Present indications suggest moderately larger supplies of processed vegetables for the new marketing season. But the picture is not a balanced one, since the gains are concentrated in the tomato lines and in frozen items. In contrast, the supply of canned vegetables (exclusive of tomatoes) will likely be about the same as the tight supply of the 1973/74 season. But total acreage of 7 major processing vegetables was 7 percent more than last year with larger plantings for all items except lima beans. Total processing tonnage of 8 items, contract cabbage added, was reported 17 percent more than 1973. This year tomato tonnage is expected to account for more than 60 percent of the total volume of these 8 crops. The usual figure is closer to 50 percent.

Heavy frosts in late September curtailed vegetable canning activity in the upper Midwest. With the delayed season this year, a substantial portion of the sweet corn was lost in Minnesota and Wisconsin, along with a smaller percentage of snap beans. This has distorted the processed vegetable supply picture, and the 17 percent larger processing tonnage estimate may change to account for this loss. Most of this gain is in tomato tonnage, and packs of tomato products will be generous. The *Processed Vegetables Annual Summary* report by USDA to be released December 19 will carry any revisions made. However, the supply of other major canned vegetables—peas, corn, and beans—will likely barely equal the tight supply of 1973/74. A larger supply of frozen vegetables, the possibility of substantial frozen off-season pack again in California, plus some winter canning of green beans in Florida, and some additional imports from freezing operations in Mexico, would only partially compensate. Nevertheless, we will not run out of these processed vegetables.

Frozen vegetable stocks, October 1

Commodity	1972	1973	1974
	Mil. lbs.	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*
Lima beans	92.8	86.2	81.2
Snap beans	208.0	224.2	227.5
Sweet corn[1]	296.4	314.6	302.9
Green peas[2]	264.2	267.0	312.9
Spinach	65.8	77.7	92.0
Broccoli	86.5	65.8	101.9
Carrots[2]	39.7	29.7	76.4
All frozen (excluding potatoes)	1,430.9	1,402.3	1,613.5

[1] Sweet corn on-cob not converted to cut equivalent. [2] Peas and carrots mixed not included.

Reduced Disappearance Likely

Disappearance of processed vegetables in 1974/75 may hold close to or fall slightly below the previous season despite the probability of larger total supplies. With a static economy and rising unemployment rates, processed vegetable use usually declines. In addition, larger supplies of several staple products—potatoes, rice, pasta products, dry beans, and dry peas—will tend to reduce demand for processed vegetables which will be comparatively much higher priced this year. Even so, most of the recent price advances for processed vegetables can be expected to hold fairly well; some later price weakening of one or two tomato products may occur.

An additional factor on the supply side must be taken into account. Except possibly for tomatoes, canners and freezers realize that securing raw product in 1975 is going to be another expensive proposition. Growers of sweet corn, peas, and green beans in many important regions again will have many attractive crop alternatives to consider—field corn, soybeans, and wheat. Much of the vegetable processing industry will be facing another season of rising raw product costs. Parts of the Central Valley of California may turn out to be an important exception. In these areas, demand for cotton and tomato acreage in 1975 may be off considerably.

Prospects for Leading Vegetables

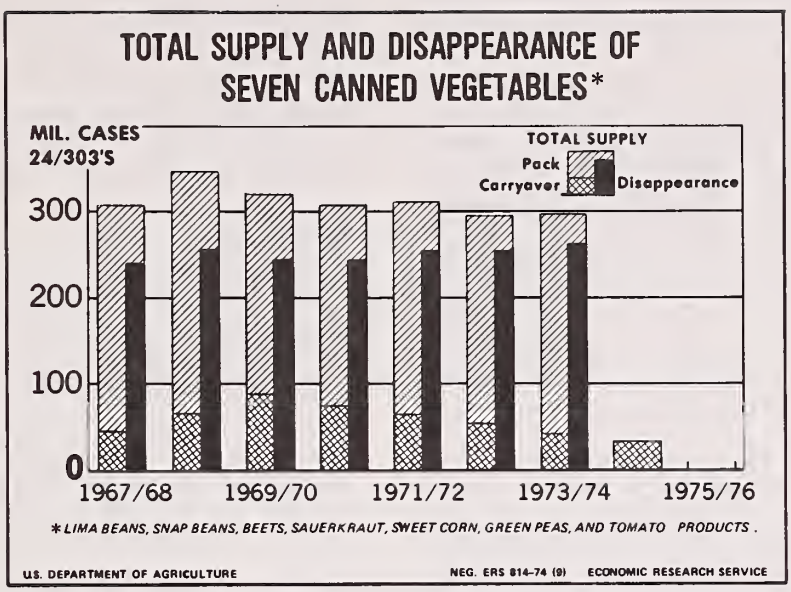
Peas

Total tonnage of peas for canning and freezing was 13 percent larger with both acreage and yield up from a year ago. The canned pack, for which data were recently released, was up 9 percent. With a pack of 32.3 million

Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	4.9	3.6	1.5
Pack	33.1	29.6	32.3[1]
Total supply	38.0	33.2	33.8[1]
Disappearance	34.4	31.7	

[1] Estimate.


TOTAL SUPPLY AND DISAPPEARANCE OF
SEVEN CANNED VEGETABLES*
MIL. CASES
24/303'S
TOTAL SUPPLY
Pack
Carryover
Disappearance
300
200
100
0
1967/68
1969/70
1971/72
1973/74
1975/76
* LIMA BEANS, SNAP BEANS, BEETS, SAUERKRAUT, SWEET CORN, GREEN PEAS, AND TOMATO PRODUCTS.
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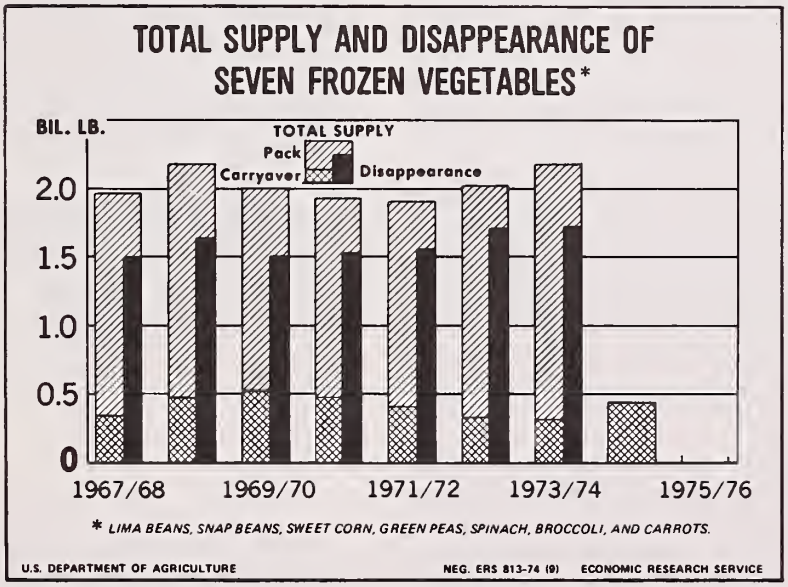

TOTAL SUPPLY AND DISAPPEARANCE OF
SEVEN FROZEN VEGETABLES*
BIL. LB.
TOTAL SUPPLY
Pack
Carryover
Disappearance
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0
1967/68
1969/70
1971/72
1973/74
1975/76
* LIMA BEANS, SNAP BEANS, SWEET CORN, GREEN PEAS, SPINACH, BROCCOLI, AND CARROTS.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 813-74 (9)
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

cases, the 1974/75 supply is only slightly larger than the small quantity available the previous season. Moreover, an increase of this size will be overshadowed by shortfalls in both canned corn and beans. Wholesale prices for most grades and packs of sweet peas are about $1.25 per case higher than a year ago (303's). With the prospect of continued tight supply of other competing vegetables, prices can be expected to hold from firm to strong.

The pack of 405 million pounds of frozen peas was again larger this season but still less than the 1965 record pack. As is typical of all processed vegetables, the price picture reflects the increased costs incurred by all packers this year. Institutional pack prices currently are reported at 31 cents per pound, up from 21 cents at the end of the previous shipping season. The list price for a case of 24/10 oz. packages is now $5.00 compared with $3.44 in April.

As a result of a near-record low carryover, a 4 percent larger 1974 pack, and a slackened rate of disappearance, October 1 stocks were 18 percent more than the low figure of a year earlier.

Snap Beans

The August U.S. snap bean tonnage estimate for canning and freezing combined called for 702,900 tons, 5 percent less than 1973. Acreage for harvest was up 5 percent but the U.S. average yield of 2.3 tons per acre was below those of the previous two seasons. Substantially lower yields were forecast in both New York and Wisconsin, but in the Willamette Valley of Oregon yields were closer to the trend of recent years and were expected to average 4 tons per acre. These three States alone accounted for nearly 60 percent of the U.S. crop in 1973. However, a late September freeze cut short the late maturing crops in Wisconsin and New York, so that the final tonnage will likely be less than the earlier estimate.

The substantially reduced 1974 pack of canned beans is augmented by a 5 million case carryover—an average figure. The resulting 1974/75 supply likely will be barely large enough to support the level of disappearance of most recent years. Wholesale prices for fancy cut beans, Midwest origin, 24/303's are fully a dollar per case higher than September 1973. The institutional 6/10's are $1.60 to $2.00 per case more, ranging from $6.75 to $7.50 this season. These prices reflect higher costs and modest supplies.

Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	5.9	2.7	5.2
Pack	47.6	55.0	49.0-52.0[1]
Total supply	53.5	57.7	54.2-57.2[1]
Disappearance ...	50.8	52.5	

[1] Estimate.

To accomodate a larger carryover, the acreage of snap beans for freezing was cut back by 9 percent this season. Stocks had been comfortably larger all this year until August, suggesting that packing activity this season might be less and would come later in the season. October 1 stocks were 1 percent above a year earlier. Since the pack season runs into October, it is difficult to determine the supply picture at this writing. Prices for institutional packs of green beans rose 10 cents per pound during this past summer to 35 cents per pound, with 23.7 cents an average price for the fall of 1973.

Sweet Corn

Before the heavy freeze hit Wisconsin and Minnesota fields late in September the U.S. sweet corn crop was estimated at 2.3 million tons, 5 percent more than 1973 and 8 percent more than 1972. These two States plus Illinois and the northeast corner of Iowa comprise the major canning area of the country. With the late season, several fields never had a chance to mature, and many canners were forced to perform salvage operations the last part of September. The final corn estimate will likely show a substantial cut from the previously quoted figure.

Coupled with another small carryover, the canned sweet corn supply will probably be less than the disappearance of some recent seasons. Assuming a 1-2 million case carryover (to keep brand names from disappearing completely from store shelves) this supply would not sustain the movement of the past 3 shipping seasons. Therefore, demand may be forced to shift from corn to other processed vegetables. Prices for fancy Midwest whole kernel golden were $5.75 in late September per case 24/303's (24 cents per can) compare with $4.60 in June and $3.84 September 1973.

Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	6.7	3.2	3.9
Pack	53.0	55.2	45.0-50.0[1]
Total supply	59.7	58.4	48.9-53.9[1]
Disappearance ...	56.5	54.5	

[1] Estimate.

The tonnage of sweet corn for freezing may hold closer to early season plans, because about half of freezing tonnage originates in the Pacific Northwest where crop progress has been closer to normal. Storage stocks on October 1 were slightly less than a year earlier. In this instance, this figure reflects a slow starting season coupled with a modest supply of old stock carried over. There is the prospect of a relatively tight supply picture

here, too, though probably not as restricted as with canned. Wholesale frozen sweet corn prices in September at 31 cents per pound for institutional packs were 10 cents a pound more than the same month a year earlier.

Tomatoes

Raw product tonnage of tomatoes for processing is expected to reach a record 7.4 million tons, 25 percent more than last year and 28 percent above 1972. California tonnage is expected to contribute 81 percent of this total. In that State, a 17 percent larger acreage, higher yields, and an earlier start have kept deliveries to plants substantially heavier than a year ago. For the week ending September 14, a record 711,000 tons were moved to California plants. Cumulative deliveries to October 12 were 6.0 million tons, so the crop is on its way to a record there. In the Midwest, canners have had problems; dry weather in western Ohio and Indiana held back fruit development during July and early August. Then came August rains, then a cool September. Despite these adversities, the SRS yield estimate in Ohio and Indiana, while not considered high, nevertheless was better than 1973. New Jersey fared better this year with 18 tons per acre yields and a 234,000 ton crop—more than a third above last year.

Complete data for all products are not available, but except for juice, carryovers were very light or in one or two cases practically nonexistent. This large pack of 1974 will easily correct the tight supply pattern which prevailed in 1973/74 processed tomato markets.

Available data on tomatoes show a record 48 million case disappearance for 1973/74 tomatoes which probably resulted from the heavy use of canned tomatoes in meat-stretching or meat-substitute dishes. Canned tomato use has moved up sharply since 1970/71. The trade expects use to be well maintained in 1974/75. Meat prices are likely to rise during the first half of 1975, resulting in a continued heavy interest in budget-stretching foods. List prices for canned tomatoes advanced to $4.95 per case for standard grade 303's, in California, up from $4.35 early in the summer. Extra standards from the Midwest moved up about 50 cents per case in the same time period. These prices are nearly a dollar per case more than last year.

Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	5.7	5.6	3.1
Pack	43.3	45.3	
Total supply	49.0	50.9	
Disappearance	43.4	47.8	

Despite the small carryover it is nearly certain that available supplies will exceed last year's 50.9 million case supply.

The canned tomato juice market did not behave like the rest of the industry in 1973/74. While the available supply was less last season, disappearance fell sharply. Trade observers note that tomato juice has lost markets to citrus juices in recent years. The carryover of 4.9 million cases is in marked contrast to other canned vegetable items, raising the question of how large a pack will be made. Juice prices currently are sharply higher than a year ago, as fancy California packed cases of 12/46 ounce cans were selling for $4.80 this past September compared with $3.56 September 1973.

Canned tomato juice: Supply and disappearance

	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75
	Mil. cases 24/303's	*Mil. cases 24/303's*	*Mil. cases 24/303's*
Carryover	8.0	2.6	4.9
Pack	31.1	33.9	
Total supply	39.1	36.5	
Disappearance	36.5	31.6	

The carryover of concentrated tomato products, paste, catsup, and sauce must have been very low on July 1 this year. Catsup list prices are sharply higher than a year earlier, $6.85 per case of 24/14 ounce bottles compared with $4.69 in September 1973. This past summer no price was listed for this item. Paste prices are nearly 42 percent above last year. Roughly two-thirds of the available raw product tonnage has moved into concentrated products in recent years.

Despite a somewhat restricted domestic supply of tomato products, import activity from July 1, 1973, to June 30, 1974, was off 39 percent. In that period, only 154 million pounds of paste and canned were brought in compared with 254 million a year earlier. Light packs in many Mediterranean countries and the effect of a devalued dollar on prices tended to keep these figures down. On the other hand, exports of tomato paste jumped from 11 million to 45 million pounds while canned tomato and tomato juice exports remained small.

Output of processing tomatoes in Mexico and Spain is expected to be larger this year. France and Portugal will have less to offer. U.S. and Japanese firms have shown interest in establishing new processing plants in the Sinaloa area of Mexico. Prices to growers have posted greater increases in these countries this year than they have in the United States.

Lima Beans

Lima bean tonnage for canning and freezing is 86,450 tons, down 12 percent from last year. Acreage was reduced in California and Delaware, the two leading States, and the Delaware yield was clipped due to dry

weather during much of the growing season. In some instances, a seed shortage limited Fordhook plantings.

Canners had contracted for larger acreage this season as they need to rebuild depleted inventories. On October 1, combined stocks of frozen Fordhooks and baby limas were 6 percent smaller than the light holdings on hand a year earlier. The total tonnage of raw product available this year suggests that frozen supplies will again be small relative to other recent seasons, but that canned supplies will be partly rebuilt. Prices for canned limas in September were nearly $2.00 per case higher than the same month a year earlier. Institutional packs of frozen Fordhooks that were worth 26-27 cents per pound in September last year now sell for 40 cents per pound.

Beets

A 30 percent larger tonnage of beets is available for canning this year, promising relief after 2 seasons of light supply. Should the 1974 pack closely reflect this gain, a total supply of 15 million cases or better could result. A gain of this size would normally put heavy downward pressure on prices, but the tight supply of competing vegetables should stimulate demand for beets. Furthermore, beet packers hope to recover increased 1974 packing costs. October quotes were $1.50 per case higher than a year earlier, but if movement should lag this winter, extended promotional allowances may be offered by packers.

Sauerkraut

A second season with relatively light supplies left the smallest carryover on record this past August 1. Since then kraut supplies have been building and the contracted tonnage this season stands at 264,100 tons, up from 196,900 contracted in 1973. Midwest packed fancy kraut was bringing $5.00 to $5.40 per case, about 15-24 percent more than a year earlier. New pack kraut is now filling the distribution channels, but with reduced pork output expected in 1975 sauerkraut movement may not come up to its full potential.

Pickles

The planted acreage this season was roughly the same as 1972 and 1973. Statistics on stocks and tonnage produced will be available November 15. A trade source noted that yields of a sample of growers in Northern States were below last year while in the South, yields were slightly improved over a year ago. The same source noted that July 1 pickle stocks this year were 5 percent less than the light supply available on the same date a year earlier.

Spinach

Trade sources indicate the 1974 spring pack of frozen spinach was a record 162 million pounds, about 19 percent more than the previous season. This pack, largely a California operation, has increased markedly in recent years. October 1 stocks of 92 million pounds were 18 percent higher than a year earlier. Packs and movement have been expanded due to tight supplies of other processed vegetables, but prices have advanced only modestly for institutional packs. List prices for consumer sizes are up moderately, with promotional allowances commonplace. This reflects the generous supply position for this vegetable which is now one of the real bargains in foods today.

The spring pack of canned spinach was 11 percent larger this year with 7.5 million cases handled. Shipments to August 1 lagged a year ago even though prices have advanced less than half the rate of other canned vegetables. California fancy 303's at $4.25 per case are only 45 cents higher than a year earlier.

With relatively heavy stocks of both canned and frozen spinach, the small fall pack will likely be a little smaller than usual this year. Acreage and production estimates will be available November 15.

Asparagus

Preliminary data note the smallest domestic frozen asparagus pack ever recorded—14 million pounds, 31 percent below last year. October stocks of 16 million pounds suggest the presence of substantial imported stock for which separate data are not available.

The pack of canned asparagus in California for 1974 was about a fifth larger than a year ago, and August 1 stocks in that State were 1.5 million actual cases, up sharply from a year earlier. Later reported data show a total U.S. asparagus pack at 5.6 million cases 24/303's, 3 percent less than last year. August 1 stocks were nearly 5 million cases. This means a sluggish rate of movement, at least partly the result of substantially higher prices this year.

Other Frozen Vegetables

Stocks of certain frozen vegetables of intermediate rank are sharply higher than a year earlier. These are broccoli, carrots, and cauliflower. Additional quantities of some of these may be packed again this fall and winter. Carrot stocks were 76 million pounds on October 1. There were 102 million pounds of broccoli and 41 million pounds of cauliflower on the same date. Onion stocks were double the quantity on hand a year earlier. Onion stock levels do not have to be as large as other crops since the crop comes closer to being one that can be frozen as orders come in. The pack season is lengthy. Frozen okra, southern greens, and blackeye peas are in good supply, too.

POTATOES

Retail potato prices declined in late summer, as expected, due to substantially larger crop production.

The Crop Reporting Board's mid-September results showed 24.6 million cwt, a slight upward revision from the August estimate and 15 percent above 1973. More supplies from New Jersey, Virginia, and Delaware kept ample quantities at more familiar retail prices along the East Coast. And Central and Western States had more local potatoes, with Texas the notable exception. Grower prices dropped from a U.S. average above $8 per cwt at spring's end to the low $4 range at the beginning of fall.

With digging in full swing and no substantial information about crop size until October 10, the September cash markets marked time. Futures market trading amounted to little more than backing and filling. Initial digging in Maine, with a greatly improved crop compared with 1973, forced the November contract as low as $3.85 (cwt. basis).

This activity was welcome news to consumers, with U.S. average retail prices for fresh potatoes in August at $1.51/10-lb. bag, a decline of 35 percent from late spring. A bit more weakness in fresh prices occurred through September, prices 2 to 4 cents per pound lower. But this price level was not welcome news to growers of round white potatoes in Eastern States.

Along with higher production costs assumed by all farm operators, some "gambles" had been made, namely, that the availability of open market potatoes for processing would be no different that projected growth in packing of finished product. But the U.S. fall crop has turned out large enough to serve the open market acquisition strategies of processors. They can point to higher storage stocks and a lower-than-expected field-run price.

Grower Prices

Summer grower prices averaged $5.15 per cwt, about the same as 1973. But wide differences were registered on a State-by-State basis. Alabama shipments averaged $6.58/cwt, down from $9.98 in 1973. Washington State growers, on the other hand, received about $1.00 more than their $3.87/cwt price for July, August, and September 1973. And New Jersey prices received by growers, influenced chiefly by a 265 cwt/acre yield, retreated $1.25 from the record $6.52 per cwt of 1973. Although the pattern was mixed, the trend was not: U.S. September potato prices dropped seasonally from early summer levels.

POTATOES-Grower Prices-Crops of 1973 and 1974

	January 1973	January 1974
	Dollars	*Dollars*
Maine	3.45	6.40
North Dakota	3.00	4.25
Idaho	2.35	4.05
U.S. average	3.16	4.67

Anticipating a larger fall crop, shipping point prices, reported by Agricultural Marketing Service, deteriorated in late summer. From Stockton, a 100-lb. sack, washed of U.S. No. 1 size A long whites moved at $4.75, down from $5.50 a year earlier. In the Northern District (Greeley, Colorado), round reds brought $4.75 per sack, about the same as early September 1973. At fall's opening, Idaho Russets (2 inch or 4-ounce min.) from Upper Valley-Twin Falls-Burley District, were priced at $7.00/ cwt, just a dime lower than 12 months before. Of course, the Idaho commodity carries a market premium and as little as 5 percent of the Idaho sales in October are for fresh market use. As storage supplies accumulate, deals below this price could be envisioned. The remaining portion of Idaho potato sales at this time of the year are processor acceptances, both under contract and open.

Retail Prices

Bureau of Labor Statistics data for September 1974 pointed to as much as a 9 cent per pound variation in grocery store prices for fresh potatoes between major metropolitan areas. For example, Western New York State, favored by nearby sources, had low prices. In Buffalo, a 10-pound bag of potatoes was $0.87. But in Dallas or Houston, where nearby sources were producing one-third fewer potatoes than summer 1973, the same sized bag was in the $1.32-$1.91 range. And despite New Jersey's estimated 40 percent larger crop production than 1973, Philadelphia's price in September was $1.52. Favored by Long Island crop, New York City's price was reported at $1.25.

The city and regional differences in fresh market prices probably influence pricing of instant mashed potatoes, although the relation is less than exact. A 7-ounce package sold in Houston for 51.6 cents; in Buffalo, for 47.6 cents. Of course, potato differences by variety make up much of the city-by-city fresh market differences, just as on the processed side the timing of promotions and allowances create regional variation.

Fall Prospects

On October 10, fall crop production of potatoes was estimated at 286.6 million cwt, a jump of 13 percent from the abbreviated fall output a year ago. The 1974 fall crop is also more than 5 percent bigger than the large 1970 and 1971 crops. A crop this big means downward price movement at the grower level this fall. This also would indicate at most only a moderate rise in grower prices through the storage season. A production gain had been expected, coming as it did from an acreage for harvest fully 6 percent higher than 1973. A crop of this size may be expected to increase both fresh and processed food utilization of potatoes. More nonfood use is assured as well. Although fresh market prices have

been reasonably well anticipated in the commodity futures market, processing prices probably have not been. Manufacturers are likely to acquire early processing throughput in the open market at hundredweight prices lower than stated values written in pre-season contracts.

In Maine, the total fall crop is 36.2 million cwt, a gain of 26 percent over the small output last year. Crop development and harvesting conditions had progressed very well through the summer and early fall. As a result, the initial storage total for New England potatoes December 1 will be up substantially from 1973's level. All eight States combined in the East have 23 percent more potatoes than fall 1973. This will mean not only deterioration of tablestock price expectations, but also cheaper potatoes for snack food manufacturers.

Among Central States, output will be up everywhere except in South Dakota. Total crop should amount to 63.2 million cwt, up 13 percent from fourth quarter 1973.

With Nevada reporting resumed, production in Western States is forecast at 162.6 million cwt, or 10 percent above a year ago. Flake manufacturing expansion has provided a boost to requirements for the crop. Washington State, with an 18 percent jump in available crop, continues its impressive growth.

Potato Processing Inputs

In the 1974/75 processing season, a key factor for dehydrated and frozen potato output is reliability of natural gas supply. Fortunately for Western processors, there were minimal intercompany interruptions of natural gas in January-March 1974. Although interruptions can be expected due to colder weather, the quantity is likely to be small in relation to total U.S. curtailments. The Federal Power Commission mandates curtailment reporting on Monthly Form 17, filed by interstate pipeline companies. It also lists customers, along with supplier, quantity, and duration.

Winter Prospects

Planting intentions for potatoes in Florida and California amount to 14,100 acres, a gain of 1 percent from winter 1974. The winter deal moves chiefly to fresh and chipping outlets. Growers apparently feel no pressing need to boldly augment marketings from storage States.

Utilization Reported

A record processing offtake highlighted the 1973 potato crop, reported August 23 by the Statistical Reporting Service. All processing uses, at 143.9 million cwt, carved out a 57.3 percent share of food use. Seed sales, spurred by the need to plant a bigger fall acreage in 1974, jumped to 20.0 million cwt, the largest in the history of potato utilization reports. Lower valued uses of the abbreviated 1973 crop—feed sales, starch and flour, and non-sales categories—all dropped from 1971 and 1972 levels. Shrinkage and loss was very low, an equivalent of 18.4 million cwt.

Potato utilization is reported for so-called "first intended use" of the crop. For example, it is possible that some sales, originally reported as tablestock, actually moved as seed. But this amount would be neglible in the total. More important is the understatement of the claim on crop made by dehydration. Total output of dehydrated finished products in 1973/74 was estimated at 615 million pounds. Several trade sources note a conversion ratio of approximately 6.2 (finished to raw product equivalent) for all dehydrated products. A dehydration offtake of 38.0 million cwt is implied, a figure substantially larger than the quantity reported to the SRS. The difference between the Statistical Reporting Service and this ERS estimate if found in tablestock and frozen utilization categories. After first sale, these categories contribute raw product to flaking drums. Dependent on frozen potato producer recovery rates, approximately 4.5-5.0 million cwt would come from the frozen category, the balance from tablestock.

Seed utilization, sales and non-sales, was up 6.4 percent from 1972/73. This correlates nicely with the estimated gain of 6.3 percent in potato acreage for the fall 1974 harvest.

Utilization of the crop for frozen french fries was 60.2 million cwt, up by 7 percent over 1972/73. Deducting some of the frozen pack, reported by the American Frozen Food Institute, formed from dehydrated potatoes, the estimated conversion ratio is 2.2 pounds of raw product to 1 pound of fries. For other frozen potato products, 1.9 pounds of raw product yields a single pound of specialty frozen products.

Chipping plant acceptances declined slightly from the previous season. Nineteen chipping lines closed in 1973/74, reducing the number of U.S. facilities to 242. Reported crop utilization dropped fractionally from 34.6 to 34.5 million cwt.

Tablestock use, which includes fresh potatoes peeled and pre-sliced for foodservice use, dropped 4 million cwt. This use is now pegged at 107 million cwt.

Comparison of Use with Estimates

In the August *Vegetable Situation* projected use of the 1973/74 crop for tablestock was 107.5 million cwt, higher than the reported 107.0 million cwt. *Situation* estimates for all processed uses erred by 2.6 million cwt—frozen totals actually were underestimated by 3.6 million cwt; dehydrated overestimated by 2.7 million cwt; chips underestimated by 1.4 million cwt.

As described above, overall frozen and dehydrated crop utilization totals could be partially reconciled by moving some of the frozen "first utilization" into dehydrated co-product. Canned potato output grew very

rapidly, climbing 18 percent from 1972/73. But canned potato output accounts for only a small share of all processing uses.

Potato utilization, 1973/74
(all figures in million cwt)

Crop use	ERS projection (from TVS-193)	SRS reported August 23, 1974
Fresh (table stock) ..	107.5	107.0
Frozen	66.4	70.0
Dehydrated	34.0	31.3
Chips	33.1	34.5
Canned	4.5	5.3
Food	245.5	248.1

Outlook for Utilization

The fall 1974 potato crop may follow, in line with new capacity for processing coming on stream, a slightly adjusted pattern of use this season. Key fact: tablestock use should gain, perhaps by 5.0 million cwt to 112.0 million. Frozen potato products will grow also but by only 2.0—3.0 million cwt crop equivalent. Solid growth in dehydrated potatoes (chiefly flakes) is assured for restructured chip use. The flake use increase would require 4.0—4.5 million cwt more crop. The logic of business planning for instant mashed potatoes is restraint this season, with lower priced tablestock on the produce counter requiring less aggressive packaging of granules. Additional dehydration facilities for granule manufacturing are scheduled for the 1975/76 crop disposition.

Should total 1974 crop production be about 338 million cwt, the nonfood "residual" would climb 15.0—16.0 million cwt above 1973/74. This means a sharply lower seedstock price level in spring 1975 plus more crop in the shrink, loss, feed, and on-farm use categories.

Inflation Impact on Potato Use

Restructured potato chip products, off to an extremely fast start in 1973/74, can now expect to feel the impact of inflation. With the exception of May and July 1974, real earnings (based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' hypothetical "average" worker) have been declining steadily since September 1973. Household adjustment of buying patterns takes a few months to become effective. Result: a slower rate of growth in dehydrated use, since snacks incorporate processing and marketing services considered discretionary.

On the other hand, several economic analyses of potato demand have demonstrated the dependence of processed product growth on increasing real incomes. These gains have taken place at the expense of fresh use. So if previous analytic work is correct, the 5.2 percent drop in real spendable earnings for U.S. workers during the last 12 months should itself spur a return to greater use of tablestock.

SWEETPOTATOES

The 1974 sweetpotato crop is 13.5 million cwt, 7 percent more than in 1973. High prices the past two growing seasons prompted increased planting this year. With favorable September weather, crop conditions improved, with the average yield of 112 bushels per acre exceeding the 1974 figure by 1 bushel per acre. North Carolina (the leading producer) and Louisiana combined account for 56 percent of the U.S. output this season. The sharply larger crop expected in North Carolina and moderately larger output in Louisiana reflect active interest in canning. The Virginia crop of 1 million cwt is the same as 1973. Most other States except Georgia and Alabama have less.

In mid-October, canners in North Carolina were paying $1.00-$1.25 for 50 pounds U.S. No. 1 canning grade delivered, sharply less than early in the season. This North Carolina price is also lower than a year earlier when the range was $1.60 to $1.85. On the Eastern Shore of Virginia, processors have been paying $3.60-$4.00 per cwt for processing stock of Nemagolds, Jewels, and Centennials. Stocks of canned sweets on August 1 were 1.1 million cases, more than double the very short carryover a year earlier. The current canned supply figure is not considered burdensome, but it tends to hold down the price paid to growers. The 1973/74 pack was a large one but not a record as the table below indicates.

Pack of canned sweetpotatoes

Season	Million cases 24/303's
1968/69	10.8
1969/70	12.5
1970/71	9.8
1971/72	10.1
1972/73	9.5
1973/74	11.4

Fresh market prices began about the same as a year ago, but have weakened as the season progressed. In North Carolina washed and waxed but uncured Porto Rico types U.S. No. 1 were mostly $4.25 per bushel or 50 pound box in early October. Louisiana prices for a similar grade were mostly $5.00. At the same time, North Carolina and Louisiana fresh market shipments were running heavier than a year ago, as there are larger supplies to be moved this season. Usually grower prices on fresh market outlets strengthen after the peak harvest period is past, and the harvest-time selling surge is over. Furthermore, growers and handlers hope to recover the added costs of curing, shrink, and storage. However, the rate of gain on the fresh market this season will be heavily influenced by the level of canning activity.

Canners' early season interest was brisk, but more recently they have offered growers less money for raw product. Their larger carryover compared with 1973,

plus a larger supply of raw stock give them this latitude. List prices for syrup pack are moderately higher than last season, but a trade source noted that some "dealing off list" is taking place to secure early season movement. On October 4, the Department of Agriculture announced the purchase of 257,100 cases of canned sweets packed in syrup, and 32,160 cases of instant dehydrated for distribution to child nutrition programs. Both products are packed in cases of 6/10s. Last year purchases were only 125,400 cases of canned, but 34,840 cases of dehydrated.

MUSHROOMS

U.S. mushroom production moved up to 279.5 million pounds in the 1973/74 season. This record output was 10 percent larger than the previous year. Pennsylvania dominated this production picture by contributing 59 percent of the total output. The U.S. average yield of 2.6 pounds per square foot surpassed 2.48 and 2.47 for the 2 previous years. The U.S. mushroom crop value came to $123.4 million, up from $110.0 million in 1972/73.

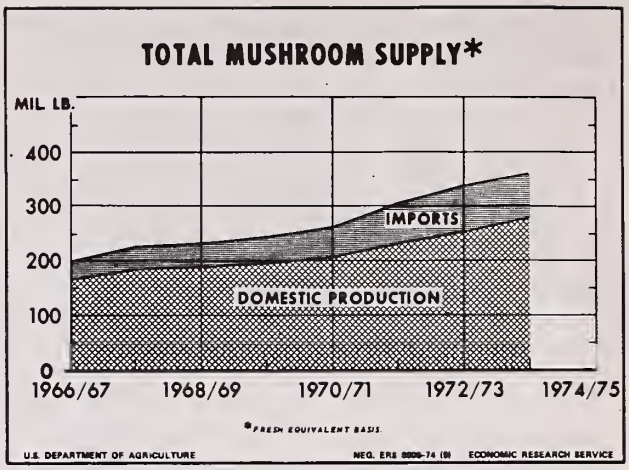
With larger supplies, fresh market sales volume moved up sharply to 102 million pounds, more than 25 million above a year earlier, representing the largest year-to-year increase ever recorded. In this past season fresh use accounted for 37 percent of total sales by growers, up from 30 percent a year earlier. This hefty gain was largely the result of adverse publicity associated with the recall of certain lots of the canned product. The average price received by growers for fresh sales was 57.1 cents a pound, up 1.6 cents from the previous year.

Mushroom: Production, use, and value

Season	Output	Processing use	Fresh market use	Farm value
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million dollars*
1968/69	189	133	56	67.8
1969/70	194	132	62	72.7
1970/71	207	149	58	89.6
1971/72	231	165	66	106.9
1972/73	254	177	77	110.0
1973/74	279	177	102	123.4

Sales to processors this past season held virtually the same as a year earlier at 177,200,000 pounds, interrupting a 3-season period of steady gains. Growers used the fresh market outlet when processor demand was curtailed. Growers received only 36.7 cents a pound for processing stock during 1973/74 or 1.3 cents below a year earlier.

In line with curtailed domestic packing activity, imports of canned mushrooms eased off during 1973/74 to 44.0 million pounds, 9 percent less than a year earlier.



The increased domestic output was large enough to raise per capita supplies in the United States to 1.7 pounds per person, fresh equivalent basis. Per capita supplies have generally advanced a tenth of a pound per person per year since 1966, suggesting continued market expansion potential.

U.S. growers intend to increase production area in 1974/75 by 7 percent over the past season. If these intentions materialize, U.S. productive capacity would reach 115 million square feet. With the market now showing signs of overcoming the effect of recent adverse publicity, domestic canning activity and canned import volume will probably show at least some of their former vitality, with increases over the 1973/74 performance. Grower prices will have to rise in 1974/75 if added costs are to be recovered. Fresh market tonnage will likely be well maintained, too, but prices could come under pressure with reduced economic activity expected.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Lower Prices

Prices received by growers of dry edible beans dropped further during the summer and early fall. In June, the price for all classes averaged $37.90 per cwt. The September price—which is based on all-State prices weighted by new crop production estimates in a dozen States—was $21.50 per cwt. Further selective declines in several classes are already apparent and prices should be near their lows during the winter.

Larger Supplies

In the 1974/75 season, the addition of 22.0 million cwt production and probably limited imports to even a minimal carryover would generate a national supply 25 percent bigger than 1973/74. Not only does this imply enough to satisfy expanded canning and bagging needs,

but also enough to furnish export channels with at least one-third more volume than last year.

But because dry edible beans are a storage commodity and because most producers are on a calendar year basis for reporting income, sales before next January 1 could cause tax problems. This fact, coupled with a desire for orderly marketing, prompts trade sources to suggest that marketings September through December 1974 will be 40 percent of new crop, at least in Michigan. This compares with a trade estimate of 55 percent new crop movement in the same 4 months of 1973. Canners and retail baggers should appreciate the potential for 0.5 million cwt fewer marketings domestically, at least until January 1.

Inventories

At the start of 1974/75 marketing, dry edible bean inventories in California were reported at 480,000 bags (cwt). This quantity included extremely generous stocks of new-crop blackeyes and limas. (Report source: California Bean Shippers Association, Salinas). Another trade source in Michigan placed September 1 stocks of navies there at 400,000 bags old-crop beans. Canadian stocks data reflecting Ontario were not estimated but could reasonably be guessed thin. Another likelihood: canning and retailing inventories (pipeline supplies) were probably small at the start of this season. This would be a reflection of higher risks and carrying costs associated with old-crop supplies.

Outlook for 1974/75 Prices

Voluntary growth of stocks in the dry bean trade could act to restrain prices at a $14.00-$16.00 per cwt level this fall, orderly marketing or not. Expected increases in retail red meat prices may stimulate the demand for beans. Most dry edible bean classes are an important protein alternative for modest-income consumers, as well as for middle-income households in cycles of high relative prices for animal proteins. Even with good demand this fall, grower prices will contrast sharply with the $47.00 per cwt high point of March 1974. A price consideration that most manufacturing users must be alert to is that "low" prices paid to growers this season could prompt a shift away from beans to corn and soybeans in spring 1975.

By classes

Large limas, $35.00 per cwt at fall's open (San Francisco, Los Angeles shipping points), were among the highest priced beans. Part of the stickiness in this price is the moderate growth—8 percent—expected in California production of this class. Baby lima beans, again Golden State origin, are at $20.00 per cwt (f.o.b. dealers' platform). But this price could decline further, moving into the mid-teens. Blackeyes, mostly new crop for the past 2 months, provide a good reference for prices that growers and dealers are likely to accept for fall marketings. Since August 1, the platform price settled comfortably into a $15.00-$17.00 per cwt range.

Pinto beans, concentrated in Colorado, are a regional exception to lower prices. The Crop Reporting Board's assessment of Colorado production shows virtually no gain from 1973, though adjacent Nebraska will have about 640,000 cwt more—some being pintos. Early October dealer quotes centered around a $32.00 per cwt price. Colorado regularly accounts for 30-35 percent of U.S. pinto output, with Idaho and North Dakota the other key States.

Great Northern quotes, at $25.25 per cwt. in the first half of October, were virtually unchanged from the beginning of summer 1974. The storage crop in 1973 was 250,000 bags larger than 1972. Results for 1974 can only be inferred from total production of all classes, estimated in Idaho and Nebraska at 4.7 million cwt, up from 3.8 million in 1973. Some shading in Great Northern dealer platform prices is therefore possible.

Nearly all pea (navy) bean production takes place in Michigan, an estimated 95.3 percent in 1973. This year, Minnesota growers probably expanded navy bean acreage, so that the Michigan proportion could drop negligibly—to 94 percent. And navies account for about 85 percent of Michigan dry bean production. So, if history can be a guide, Michigan may have over 6.5 million cwt of navies to market in 1974/75.

Retail Price Rigidity

On a current accounting basis, retailers appear to have dramatically widened their margins on dry edible beans. As survey components in most cities, the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates average shelf prices for navies and only occasionally prices Great Northerns. A look at trade-reported prices of Michigan beans and BLS prices shows the change:

1974 Month	cents/lb. Growers' price	cents/lb. Retail shelf price
January	42.5	58.4
February	49.0	66.8
March	51.5	72.1
April	48.0	78.1
May	no bids	81.5
June	no bids	80.4
July	27.0	77.5
August	23.0	72.3
September	21.5	69.2

Of course, retailers target their margins on a staple such as dry edible beans. In practice, matching average cost of beans purchased against revenue from sales of the same beans could create a cost accounting margin lower than the month-by-month comparisons imply. Nevertheless, there is clearly a long distance to go before retailers return to more familiar shelf prices in relation to commodity cost.

Michigan Plus Ontario

Agriculture Canada estimates that just 1.7 million cwt of white beans will be produced in Ontario (which accounts for better than 98 percent of Canadian pea bean production) this year. Although planted acreage of 140,000 was record large, yields were compromised by lack of moisture and excessive heat. The Ontario production in 1973 was just under 1.6 million cwt. So the North American supply outlook for navies is for approximately 8.0 million bags, about 20 percent higher than 1973/74 availability. The generous Michigan crop production may permit extra shipments from Michigan to traditional European Community users. And shortfalls in Ontario yields could facilitate development of additional external markets for Wolverine growers and dealers.

Export Impact

In September, the Rocky Mountain "Bean Market News" reported trade estimates of pinto movement to Mexico. During September through December, export volume from these purchases could run at 400,000 bags. This development extended support to grower-dealer prices (all shipping points) at the opening of new crop marketings.

Regulatory Changes

Under the U.S. Warehouse Act, the Department's Agricultural Marketing Service proposed on September 25 to strengthen the net assets and bonding requirements for dry bean warehousemen licensed under the Act. A licensed dry bean warehouseman would have to have net assets equal to 40 cents per cwt for the maximum number of hundredweight the warehouse can accommodate. The old requirement was 22 cents.

DRY PEAS

Supplies of dry peas will be among the largest ever this season. Both acreage and yields in Washington and Idaho were sharply larger this year. Production of 3.5 million cwt is roughly double the small 1973 output. With the larger supply, grower prices have moved steadily downward from the record $31.00 per cwt recorded last April when supplies were practically exhausted. The new season price in August reported by SRS was $15.70 per cwt and the September figure moved to $13.10. This September price was well below the corresponding month a year earlier, but triple the more usual $4.00 September price.

Exports of peas for 1973/74 probably total 1 million cwt shy of the 2.7 million cwt shipped in the 1972/73 crop year. For the new season now underway, the large U.S. crop could support record export movement if the demand is there. Lentil exports in the old season were off comparably.

Early October prices from the leading trade association quoted greens at $11.45 per cwt versus $25.05 a year ago. Yellows were $9.85 and lentils were $16.05, off from respective prices $18.35 and $26.90 last season.

For additional data on Potato prices and supplies write for: POTATO FACTS. This statistical reference includes price, supply, stocks, and margins data for recent years.

COSTS AND FACTORS AFFECTING PRODUCTION OF FRESH TOMATOES, PEPPERS, AND CUCUMBERS IN FLORIDA AND WEST MEXICO FOR U.S. MARKETS

by

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ABSTRACT: Costs of producing and marketing fresh tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers from Florida and West Mexico to f.o.b. shipping points in the United States are examined for the 1973/74 season. Relative changes in costs, factors affecting their levels, and effects on competitive positions are discussed.

KEYWORDS: Tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, Mexico, production costs, marketing costs.

SUMMARY

Production and marketing costs per unit to f.o.b. shipping points are lower for Mexican tomatoes and peppers than in Florida. Conversely, Florida costs are lower for cucumbers. However, location and/or climatic advantages effectively offset any advantage one area may have over the other. Costs of labor and production supplies have accounted for the bulk of the cost increases for both areas. Mexico's wage rates are rising quite sharply and the trend is expected to continue. Addition to new technology in Florida, i.e. plastic mulch, has raised the cost of production inputs.

U.S. consumers depend on Florida and Mexico to supply a substantial part of their winter fresh vegetables. For a number of important commodities they are jointly the only supply source of any importance in the winter and early spring. Over the last several years Mexico has become increasingly important as a supplier. Much of the increase in U.S. demand for winter vegetables over the last quarter century has been met by greater production from Mexico.

For the past 5 years Mexico has increased shipments of peppers and cucumbers at an annual rate of 14 and 13 percent, respectively. After reaching an initial peak in the 1969/70 season, imports of Mexican tomatoes have leveled off with the average annual rate of increase since that time at 1 percent.

Florida has increased tomato production dramatically following a 1969/70 low. Tomato marketings over the last 5 years have increased at an annual rate in excess of 18 percent. Cucumber sales have increased 6 percent annually but pepper production in Florida has declined at a rate of about 4 percent per year for the last few years.

Competition between these two production areas is and has been very strong, particularly for tomatoes. To maintain surveillance of the situation, past studies have compared production costs. This report presents estimates of the production and marketing costs for fresh tomatoes, bell peppers, and cucumbers produced in Florida and Mexico for the 1973/74 season.

Tomatoes

In the last few years, Florida tomato production and handling techniques have undergone substantial change. This was to be expected; the industry was hampered by high labor costs and the increasing competition from Mexican supplies.

One of the developments has been a shift in the type of tomato produced. Vine ripe (breakers and riper) tomatoes have shown a substantial decline in production since 1964/65 (figure 1). They require a much greater frequency of picking than mature greens. In addition, vine ripes are hand wrapped and packed while mature greens can be jumble packed with automatic carton

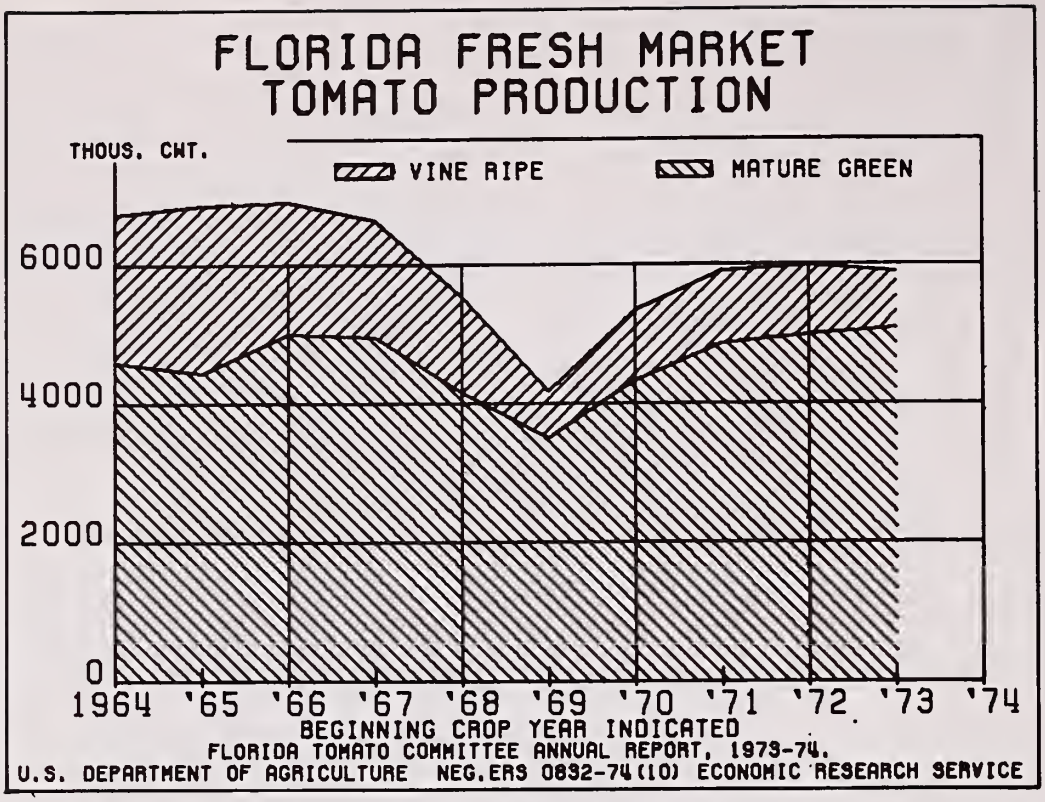

Figure 1

fillers. Apparently many growers have found the vine ripe price differential insufficient to cover the added costs of production, harvesting, and packing.

Florida growers have adopted new technology rapidly. Plastic mulch is being used on most tomato fields, in the trend toward production of mature greens on stakes. Better quality, higher yields, and easier harvesting are among the benefits derived from plastic mulch and stakes. An exception to the shift to stakes for mature green tomatoes is Dade County where the rocky soil prevents their use.

New varieties have been developed by the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station. They are Walter and MH-1. Very few of the old varieties continue to be grown because of their less desirable characteristics.

Florida has mechanized tomato handling at a rapid pace over the last 3 years. The harvesting and hauling of tomatoes from the fields has shifted to bulk pallet bins from field boxes. Use of pallet bins has been augmented with automatic bin dumps at the packinghouses. Not only have the bins proven to be more cost efficient but also handlers report that less fruit is damaged.

Historically, mature green tomatoes have been shipped to intermediate handlers with ripening rooms located near the consuming centers. This practice continues but it is being supplanted by ripening rooms operated in conjunction with the packinghouses. A recent study revealed that 31 percent of the 1971/72 season mature greens were ripened at the shipping point. More recent data are not available although industry sources report that ripening facilities continue to be installed, with increasing proportions of shipments ripened at the shipping point. While this practice has not reduced the growing, harvesting, and packing costs, cost savings have occurred between the shipping point and consumer. For example, the industry shifted from 40- and 60-pound cartons to 30-pound cartons. With the product already showing color, the smaller container can be shipped directly to the retail outlet. Moreover, the quantity of tomatoes in the "pipeline" can be reduced with some savings on costs, lower fruit losses, and higher quality. The net result should be a reduction in the marketing costs for mature green tomatoes.

The recent changes in the Mexican tomato industry do not appear to be nearly as dramatic as for Florida. Most of the tomatoes grown for export are from Sinaloa State. The bulk of them are vine ripe, but in recent years a slight increase in the proportion of mature green tomatoes has become evident (figure 2). This trend is expected to continue. Essentially the same types of economic pressures experienced by Florida growers are likely to influence Mexican decision makers.

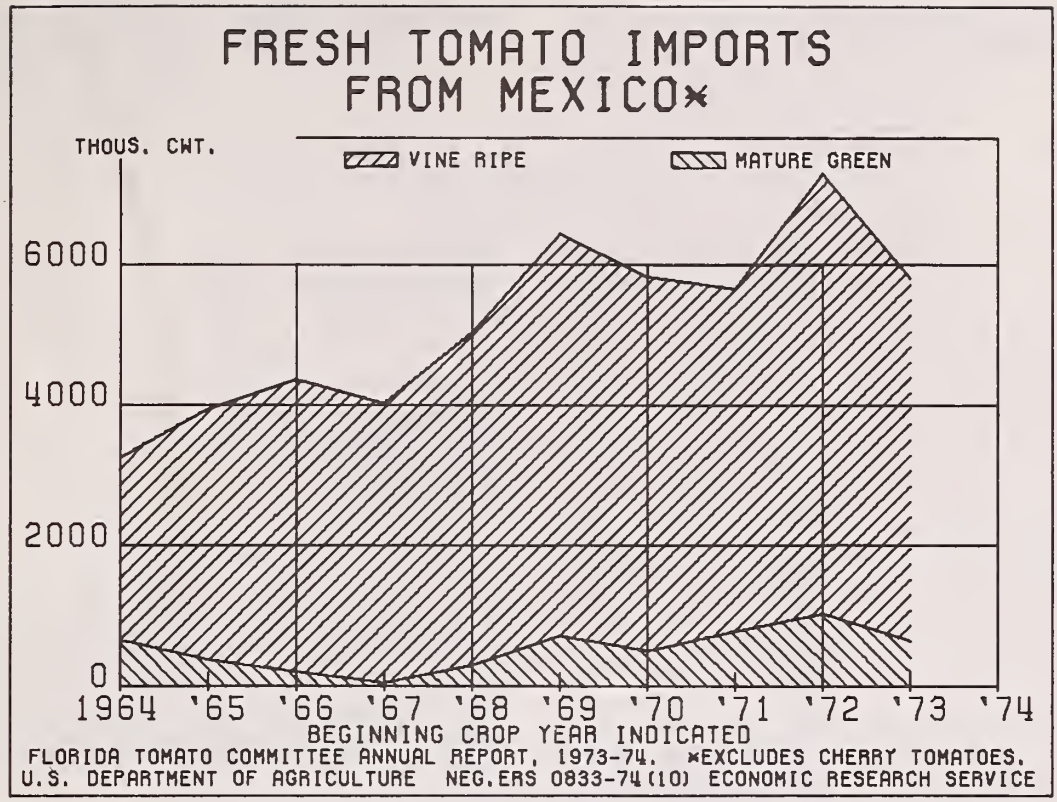

Figure 2

Application of the new technologies along with higher prices for inputs have materially increased costs in both production areas. Estimates of the costs of Florida and Mexican tomatoes were made for the 1973/74 season (table 1). Only the major type of tomatoes is reported for each area. Yields and cost data are generally representative of better than average management.

Mexico has a decided advantage over Florida in the costs of production—$0.86 versus $2.40 per 30-pound carton. But the difference is practically offset by Mexico's higher costs of marketing in getting its tomatoes harvested, packed, and exported to the United States. Total cost for Florida mature greens at the f.o.b. shipping point was $4.86, and compared with $4.64 for Mexican vine ripened tomatoes f.o.b. Nogales, Ariz.

Direct comparisons with cost estimates in previous years cannot be made because of market changes in the Florida industry and their impact upon the marketing system. Nevertheless, cost estimates for the 1970/71 season from an earlier study show Mexican vine ripe costs to be almost 25 percent higher than Florida mature green costs, but about 15 percent lower than Florida vine ripe costs.

Labor costs are a major cost component in both production areas. Relatively lower wage rates in Mexico continue to be the dominant contributor to Mexico's low production costs. However, this advantage appears to be diminishing as Mexico's wage rate increased by about one-third in the 1973/74 season as compared to about a 7 percent rise in Florida. Mexican national policy and strong social pressures point to a continuation of their significant wage increases. In fact, a 35 percent increase in wages has been projected for the 1974/75 season in Mexico.

The 20-cent per 30-pound carton cost advantage enjoyed by Mexico does not in itself provide Mexico with a competitive advantage. Factors which contribute to Florida's relative advantage are (1) the proximity of Florida to more than half of the U.S. population which gives a transportation cost advantage and (2) the higher quality of Florida tomatoes as perceived by some of the trade.

Peppers

Florida production of bell peppers was sharply reduced beginning with the 1969/70 season. This was caused by a severe outbreak of virus that destroyed much of that year's crop. Production has not recovered and the disease remains a threat as resistant varieties have not been developed. Improved cultural practices

Table 1—Costs of producing and marketing fresh tomatoes in Florida and West Mexico, 1973-74 season

Cost item	Production area and tomato type			
	Florida mature greens on stakes[1]		West Mexico vine-ripes	
	Acre	30-lb. carton[2]	Acre	30-lb. carton[3]
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Producing:				
Labor	676		237	
Supplies	618		369	
Machinery services	316		102	
Miscellaneous	312		111	
Total producing	1,922	2.40	819	.86
Marketing:				
Harvest		.94		.90
Pack		1.32		1.04
Transportation				.61
Export charges				.08
U.S. tariff				.56
Sales commission		.15		.59
Other		.05		
Total marketing		2.46		3.78
Total costs		4.86[4]		4.64[5]

[1] Based on D. L. Brooke's "Costs and Returns from Vegetable Crops in Florida, Season 1972-73 with Comparisons," Economics Report 59. Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida, March 1974, with costs adjusted to reflect changes in major input prices for 1973-74 season. [2] Florida yield, 800 30-pound cartons marketed per acre. [3] Mexico yield, 950 30-pound equivalent cartons per acre sold in export and domestic markets. [4] Total costs f.o.b. shipping point but excludes any charges for ripening (usually 25 cents per carton). [5] Total costs f.o.b. Nogales, Arizona.

and the use of plastic mulch have had positive effects upon the Florida industry and helped offset disease losses.

Extreme problems with diseases have not occurred in Mexico's pepper fields. No major production changes have taken place there in recent years, except that initial success with containerized transplants may lead to their more widespread use. The time interval between transplanting and harvesting is significantly shorter and risks of disease and weather losses are reduced with plants from this system.

Pepper production costs were $0.94 per bushel in Mexico for the 1973/74 season (table 2). Florida's production costs were much higher, $2.10 per bushel. This difference was almost offset by higher marketing costs for Mexico. Total costs at the f.o.b. points for Florida and Mexico were $4.15 and $4.01 per bushel, respectively.

Although the f.o.b. cost advantage amounted to only 3 percent for Mexico it was a sizable change from a few years earlier. Estimates for the 1970/71 season showed Mexico pepper costs to be 20 percent higher than those for Florida. Most of the increase in Florida costs came as

Table 2—Costs of producing and marketing fresh bell peppers in Florida and West Mexico, 1973-74 season

Cost item	Florida[1]		West Mexico	
	Acre	Bushel[2]	Acre	Bushel[2]
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Producing:				
Labor	417		156	
Supplies	462		215	
Machinery services	277		62	
Miscellaneous	196		170	
Total producing	1,352	2.10	603	.94
Marketing:				
Harvest and pack		1.88		1.45
Transportation				.57
Export charges				.04
U.S. Tariff				.70
Sales commission		.17		.31
Total marketing		2.05		3.07
Total costs		4.15[3]		4.01[4]

[1] Based on D. L. Brooke's "Costs and Returns from Vegetable Crops in Florida, Season 1972-73 with Comparisons," Economics Report 59, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida, March 1974, with costs adjusted to reflect changes in major input prices for 1973-74 season. [2] Florida and West Mexico yields, 645 bushels per acre. [3] Total cost f.o.b. shipping point. [4] Total costs f.o.b. Nogales, Arizona.

a result of substantially higher costs for labor and supplies to produce a pepper crop.

Higher transportation rates to most eastern U.S. markets more than offset Mexico's f.o.b. cost advantage relative to Florida.

Cucumbers

Little change in production techniques for cucumbers has occurred in Florida or Mexico in recent years. The biggest differences in the two production areas are in the growth of cucumbers on stakes in Mexico and the seasonality of supplies. Florida's marketings are heaviest in the fall and spring with limited production in the winter due to the plant's low cold weather tolerance. Only about 25 percent of Florida's production occurs in the winter quarter when Mexico's is heaviest. The climate of Mexico is more suitable for production of cucumbers in the winter quarter.

Production costs for cucumbers were $1.58 per bushel in Mexico last season (table 3). This was well below the $2.90 per bushel expense Florida growers incurred. Marketing costs added another $2.99 to the f.o.b. Florida shipping point costs. But marketing costs for imported Mexican cucumbers were 50 percent higher than for Florida. Total f.o.b. costs gave Florida a $0.23 cost advantage (4 percent lower). This was considerably lower than the $1.50 cost differential found in the estimates for the 1970/71 season. However, differences

in the estimated cucumber production per acre account for a good part of the change.

In spite of any cost advantages Florida may have in supplying domestic markets with cucumbers, Mexico retains a dominant position in the winter market by virtue of its climate.

Table 3—Costs of producing and marketing cucumbers in Florida and West Mexico, 1973-74 season

Cost item	Florida[1]		West Mexico	
	Acre	Bushel[2]	Acre	Bushel[2]
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Producing:				
Labor	179		61	
Supplies	206		113	
Machinery services	186		5C	
Miscellaneous	82		147	
Total producing	653	2.90	371	1.58
Marketing:				
Harvest		1.29		.69
Pack		1.54		.98
Transportation				.84
Export charges				.30
U.S. tariff				1.40
Sales commission		.16		.33
Total marketing		2.99		4.54
Total costs		5.89[4]		6.12[5]

[1] Based on D. L. Brooke's "Costs and Returns from Vegetable Crops in Florida, Season 1972-73 with Comparisons," Economics Report 59, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida, March 1974, with costs adjusted to reflect changes in major input prices for 1973-74 season. [2] Florida yield, 225 bushels per acre. [3] West Mexico yield, 235 bushels per acre. [4] Total costs f.o.b. shipping point. [5] Total costs f.o.b. Nogales, Arizona.

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Table 1—Harvested acreage and production of commercial vegetables for processing

Commodity	Harvested acreage			Production			
	1972	1973	For harvest 1974	1972	1973	Indicated 1974	1974 as percentage of 1973
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 tons*	*1,000 rons*	*1,000 tons*	*Percent*
Beans, lima	74.5	77.5	71.5	90.6	98.1	86.4	88
Beans, snap	255.4	292.1	305.8	613.4	741.3	702.9	95
Beets	12.7	16.4	18.9	164.9	200.8	262.0	130
Corn, sweet	428.6	453.3	484.6	2,114.2	2,168.1	2,277.8	105
Peas, green	377.7	413.4	437.0	512.0	492.2	556.8	113
Spinach (winter and spring)	21.0	21.0	23.0	138.4	140.4	152.2	108
Tomatoes	265.0	295.1	342.5	5,803.7	5,934.6	7,404.6	125
Total with production[1]	1,434.9	1,568.8	1,683.4	9,437.2	9,775.5	11,442.9	117
Asparagus	87.3	[2]	[2]	98.4	84.2	n.a.	---
Cabbage for Kraut	10.8	13.1	n.a.	198.1	218.3	264.1	121
Cucumbers for pickles	128.8	129.1	133.0[3]	571.2	609.0	n.a.	---
Spinach (fall)	5.8	5.9	n.a.	25.8	30.0	n.a.	---
Total-10 vegetables[1]	1,667.6	1,716.9	n.a.	10,330.7	10,717.0	n.a.	---

[1] May not add to total due to rounding. n.a.—not availlable. [2] Estimates discontinued. [3] Spring and summer harvest.

Vegetable Processing, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 2—Fall potatoes: Production by areas, United States

Year	8 Eastern States	8 Central States	8[3] Western States	Fall total[1]
	Million cwt.	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*
1968	65	54	115	235
1969	63	56	133	253
1970	65	57	146	268
1971	64	62	140	267
1972	51	55	142	249
1973	49	56	148	254
1974[2]	61	63	163	287

[1] May not add to total due to rounding. [2] Indicated as of October 1. [3] Nine states for 1968.

Data from Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 3—Sweetpotatoes: Production by areas, United States

Area	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973[1]	1974[2]
	1,000 cwt.	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*
Central Atlantic[3]	2,315	2,091	1,515	1,447	1,298	1,535	1,574
Lower Atlantic[4]	3,425	4,790	4,628	4,148	4,660	4,385	5,173
Central[5]	6,838	6,617	6,610	5,496	5,741	5,686	5,873
California	800	872	656	627	754	928	840
Total	13,378	14,370	13,409	11,718	12,453	12,534	13,460

[1] Preliminary. [2] Indicated. [3] New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. [4] North CArolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. [5] Tennessee, Alabama, MIssissippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. Kansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico discountinued beginning 1969.

Data from CROP PRODUCTION, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 4—Dry edible beans: Production by areas, United States[1]

Year	Michigan	New York	Northwest[2]	Southwest[3]	California	Other	U.S. total[4]
	Million cwt.	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*
1967	5.3	1.1	4.1	2.1	2.6		15.2
1968	6.3	.9	4.6	2.3	3.3		17.4
1969	8.1	.9	4.8	2.2	2.9		18.9
1970	6.1	.7	5.5	2.3	2.7		17.4
1971	5.6	.8	5.4	2.0	2.1		15.9
1972	7.1	.3	6.4	1.8	2.5		18.1
1973[5]	5.7	.4	6.3	1.7	2.7	.1	16.9
1974[6]	7.9	.5	8.1	1.7	3.7	.2	22.0

[1] Cleaned basis. [2] Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington. [3] Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. [4] May not add to total due to rounding. [5] Preliminary. [6] Indicated.

Data from Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 5—Average retail price of specified fresh and canned items, by months, 1972 to date

Item and year	Jan.	Feb.	March	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Cents	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*
FRESH												
Onions (pound)												
1972	14.5	14.7	14.4	14.7	15.4	16.8	20.3	21.3	21.6	19.3	19.3	19.7
1973	20.3	24.0	28.9	34.5	41.6	27.8	24.1	23.4	19.3	18.8	19.3	20.3
1974	20.0	25.5	25.3	21.4	19.5	20.6	20.2	21.7				
Cabbage (pound)												
1972	16.0	15.8	14.6	13.8	14.7	13.7	13.5	13.1	13.6	13.9	13.7	13.8
1973	14.4	14.7	18.3	18.4	21.5	17.9	18.4	19.4	17.6	19.6	16.9	16.4
1974	16.4	15.9	17.4	15.9	16.4	18.0	17.5	15.4				
Celery (pound)												
1972	28.7	28.3	27.0	20.6	24.4	22.2	23.0	20.5	21.6	22.1	22.0	22.3
1973	24.3	24.1	23.9	21.7	24.1	23.8	26.1	31.7	23.3	22.5	21.6	20.7
1974	21.6	21.5	21.6	21.1	23.7	25.6	28.4	25.3				
Lettuce (head)												
1972	36.6	41.6	29.1	31.5	29.9	33.1	30.3	31.4	32.6	34.4	37.9	40.9
1973	39.0	36.4	36.6	43.9	45.2	61.0	51.6	50.6	36.0	34.4	34.7	32.6
1974	32.7	32.5	37.4	35.0	49.2	51.5	49.5	39.4				
Tomatoes (pound)												
1972	50.7	49.7	39.8	46.1	47.7	54.7	46.0	42.7	38.8	41.1	52.4	51.6
1973	58.0	51.8	48.9	47.2	44.8	48.3	57.0	50.1	36.4	39.3	47.8	48.8
1974	56.5	61.3	58.7	47.7	63.2	63.8	58.9	45.3				
CANNED												
Peas (No. 303 can)												
1972	26.6	26.6	26.5	26.6	26.3	26.3	26.4	26.2	26.5	26.2	26.4	26.3
1973	26.3	26.4	26.7	26.9	26.7	26.9	26.9	27.0	27.2	27.5	27.8	28.0
1974	28.3	28.7	29.1	29.3	29.9	30.5	31.3	33.8				
Tomatoes (No. 303 can)												
1972	22.5	22.6	22.6	22.6	22.6	22.6	22.6	22.9	23.1	23.1	23.2	23.4
1973	23.4	23.8	23.9	24.2	24.4	24.5	24.7	24.8	25.0	25.1	25.9	26.1
1974	26.7	27.2	27.6	28.3	29.0	29.1	29.6	30.2				
POTATOES												
Tablestock (10 lbs.)												
1972	82.5	83.9	84.4	83.1	83.2	90.6	104.6	108.4	97.7	94.3	99.0	99.8
1973	103.4	111.1	119.3	124.7	134.2	164.8	181.2	183.9	129.2	123.2	131.3	135.9
1974	137.1	163.4	191.2	197.3	239.0	234.3	201.7	151.5				
Frozen French Fries (9 oz. pkg.)												
1972	16.3	16.5	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.6	16.7	16.8	16.7	16.7	16.8
1973	16.8	16.7	16.8	16.9	17.0	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.4	17.6	18.0	18.4
1974	18.4	18.6	19.1	20.1	21.2	21.6	22.7	24.4				
Inst. Mashed (7 oz. pkg.)												
1972	40.5	40.7	40.8	40.4	40.7	40.8	40.5	40.6	40.8	40.7	40.8	41.0
1973	40.8	41.0	41.8	42.5	42.8	43.1	43.0	42.9	43.1	43.3	43.7	44.2
1974	45.0	45.9	46.4	46.9	48.1	50.0	51.9	53.0				

Retail prices, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Table 6— Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1972, 1973, and indicated 1974

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage for harvest				Production			
	1972	1973	1974		1972	1973	1974	
			Indicated	Percentage of 1973			Indicated[1]	Percentage of 1973
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*Percent*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*Percent*
Winter	194.1	174.2	195.1	112	31,094	31,076	34,741	112
Spring	396.1	366.2	342.6	94	54,646	53,835	52,601	98
Summer	579.0	600.8	558.2	93	72,652	74,531	70,054	94
Fall:[2]								
Beans, snap	18.5	18.2	13.8	76	654	633	497	79
Broccoli[3]	11.7	16.5	16.2	98	752	1,152	1,073	93
Cabbage[3]	29.3	32.0	32.6	102	7,148	7,802	8,178	105
Cantaloups	4.8	2.7	3.3	122	477	327	363	111
Carrots[3]	22.1	27.2	23.7	87	6,551	9,154	7,382	81
Cauliflower[3]	11.1	13.1	15.0	114	1,192	1,490	1,600	107
Celery[3]	10.0	9.8	8.3	85	4,986	5,065	4,115	81
Corn, sweet	19.5	15.7	16.9	108	1,474	1,182	1,183	100
Cucumbers	13.5	11.4	13.3	117	1,328	1,027	1,264	123
Eggplant	.8	.6	.7	117	124	107	116	108
Escarole	2.1	1.8	1.8	100	256	185	198	107
Honeydew melons	.8	.5	.7	140	153	113	137	121
Lettuce	59.7	66.0	52.5	80	12,126	13,044	10,553	81
Peppers, green[3]	11.2	10.4	10.0	96	1,355	1,265	1,160	92
Spinach	2.1	2.5	2.8	112	125	135	155	115
Tomatoes	29.3	27.1	23.9	88	4,373	4,819	3,776	78
Total fall to date[4]	246.6	255.4	235.3	92	43,074	47,500	41,750	88
Total acreage and production reported to date[4]	1,415.9	1,396.6	1,331.2	95	201,466	206,942	199,146	96

[1] Based on average yield per acre. [2] October, November, and December. [3] Includes fresh market and processing. [4] May not add due to rounding.

Vegetables-Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7—Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods 1973 and 1974

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday			
			1973		1974	
			Sept. 11	Oct. 9	Sept. 10	Oct. 8
			Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
New York						
Beans, snap, green						
Harvesters	New Jersey	Bu. bskt.	4.00	3.25	7.50	—
Broccoli	California	14's, crt.	—	5.25	6.00	5.50
Cabbage, domestic						
round type	New Jersey	Various crates	5.00	3.75	2.00	2.125
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt. 36's	11.00	18.00	17.00	19.00
Carrots, topped						
washed	California	48 1-lb. film bag, ctn.	5.50	7.25	7.50	7.75
Cauliflower	Long Island	Crt. 12's	3.75	5.00	4.50	4.75
Celery, Pascal	New York	2-3 doz.	4.50	3.25	6.00	5.00
Celery, Pascal	California	2-3 doz.	6.50	6.00	7.25	6.50
Cucumbers	South Carolina	Bu. bskt.	—	6.25	—	—
Corn, sweet	New York	5 doz. crate	4.125	4.25	2.75	5.00
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2-doz. cnt.	5.75	4.25	5.25	6.25
Onions, yellow Spanish						
large	Idaho—Oregon	50 lb. sack	3.50	4.25	5.00	4.75
Onions, yellow globe						
,medium	New York	50 lb. sack	—	4.15	3.75	—
Spinach, savory	New Jersey	Bu. bskt.	—	5.00	—	5.00
Chicago						
Beans, snap, green						
various varieties	Illinois	Bu. hamper	5.25	4.75	6.00	—
Broccoli	California	14's crt.	—	4.75	6.25	5.25
Cabbage, domestic						
round type	Illinois	Various crates	—	3.35	2.25	2.50
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt., 36's	—	—	—	17.50
Cauliflower	California	Ctns., film wrpd., 12's	—	—	7.50	5.75
Celery, Pascal	Michigan	2-4 doz.	4.50	4.25	6.00	4.75
Cucumbers	Illinois	Bu. bskt.	—	8.50	4.00	—
Green Peppers	Illinois	Bu. bskt., lge.	5.75	—	5.00	4.00
Honeydews	California	Crts., 5-8's	2.75	2.75	3.50	3.00
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. ctn.	5.10	3.75	4.75	5.75
Onions, yellow Spanish						
large	Idaho—Oregon	50 lb. sack	3.50	4.00	4.60	4.50
Onions, yellow						3.75
medium	Midwestern	50 lb. sack	3.50	3.85	4.25	3.75
Spinach, flat type	Illinois	Bu. bskt.	4.75	—	—	—
Tomatoes, green, ripes						
and turning, med-lge.	California	2-Lyr. Lug	4.00	3.75	5.00	4.75

Weekly Summary of terminal Market Prices, AMS., USDA.

Market News Reports.

Table 8—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, 1961 to date[1]

(1967=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
1961	74	74	76	95	83	90	81	65	65	65	76	74	76
1962	94	102	125	109	107	84	73	63	64	66	75	85	87
1963	102	95	82	83	78	88	85	65	62	70	91	94	83
1964	100	103	98	89	83	90	80	76	76	78	101	87	88
1965	80	86	101	106	121	102	85	78	78	84	90	88	92
1966	106	112	102	109	97	99	114	101	91	91	103	99	102
1967	103	99	98	108	103	121	110	86	82	88	100	103	100
1968	118	123	127	132	108	98	94	88	92	91	115	119	109
1969	107	111	109	107	121	100	100	96	94	110	144	132	111
1970	134	130	125	112	124	113	103	95	107	96	105	100	112
1971	114	123	149	140	129	127	121	104	100	118	164	137	127
1972	152	132	118	137	127	126	121	128	131	115	145	136	131
1973	159	157	171	196	182	182	180	134	128	126	130	136	157
1974[2]	142	169	143	148	174	170	165	148	144				

[1] All prices reported on f.o.b. basis. [2] Preliminary.

Table 9—Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1972 and 1973 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1973 and 1974 by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canners			Wholesale distributors[1]		
	1972	1973	Date	1973	1974	Date	1973	1974
	1000 cases 24/303's	*1,000 cases 24/303's*	*1,000 cases 24/303's*	*1,000 cases 24/303's*	*1,000 cases 24/303's*	*1,000 cases 24/303's*	*1,000 cases 24/303's*	*1,000 cases 24/303's*
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	47,556	55,002	July 1	2,739	5,215	July 1	3,069	4,065
Beets	9,448	11,324	July 1	852	863	July 1	663	847
Corn, sweet	52,957	55,227	Aug. 1	3,222	2,365	July 1	3,939	4,460
Peas, green	33,081	29,558	June 1	3,630	1,460	June 1	3,993	2,317
Sauerkraut	10,697	11,788	Aug. 1	1,310	1,262	July 1	662	706
Total	153,739	162,899		11,753	11,165		12,326	12,395
Tomato items								
Tomatoes	43,301	45,347	July 1	5,640	3,098	July 1	4,067	4,360
Tomato juice[2]	31,074	33,936	July 1	2,647	4,866	July 1	2,323	2,306
Total	74,375	79,283		8,287	7,964		6,390	6,666
Other commodities								
Asparagus	5,860	5,794	Mar. 1	1,458	1,199	Apr. 1	564	663
Beans, Lima	2,116	3,150	Aug. 1	139	240	July 1	320	408
Field peas	2,637	2,817						
Carrots	5,093	6,160	July 1	1,043	2,215	July 1	726	874
Okra[3]	587	547						
Pickles	63,969	68,090						
Pimientos	650	269						
Pumpkin and squash	4,064	4,632	July 1	697	603	July 1	321	333
Potatoes	5,022	5,068						
Sweetpotatoes	9,461	11,415						
Spinach	8,255	8,944	Mar. 1	1,792	1,832	Apr. 1	650	713
Other greens	2,776	4,029						
Vegetables, mixed	6,467	8,898						
Total comparable other items	116,957	129,813		5,129	6,089		2,581	2,991
Grand total comparable items	345,071	371,995		25,169	25,218		21,297	22,052

[1] Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 303 cans. [2] Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. [3] Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes. n.a.—not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners' Association, unless otheerwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stock from the Bureau of Census.

Table 10—Vegetable, frozen: United States commercial packs 1972 and 1973 cold storage holdings, September 1, 1974 with comparisons

	Packs		Cold storage holdings		
	1972	1973	September 1, 1972	September 1, 1973	September 1, 1974[1]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Asparagus	33.6	20.2	31.7	27.2	18.8
Beans, lima:					
Fordhook	53.0	51.6	23.8	17.4	12.9
Baby	92.6	98.1	25.6	23.6	25.9
Total	145.6	149.7	49.4	41.0	38.8
Beans, snap:					
Regular cut	151.1	178.3	119.9	142.3	128.6
French cut	84.0	80.5	58.6	61.6	62.4
Wax	6.1	9.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total	241.2	268.3	178.5	203.9	191.0
Broccoli	234.3	213.2	85.0	60.6	94.4
Brussels sprouts	55.8	56.8	15.9	16.7	19.1
Carrots	165.9	231.7	34.6	30.1	71.7
Cauliflower	94.1	96.1	20.7	17.7	38.7
Corn, cut	273.8	294.2	94.7	103.8	97.6
Corn-on-cob	133.1	166.8	46.7	45.5	46.6
Mixed vegetables	149.4[2]	124.6[2]	24.5	13.4	27.7
Onions	110.7	114.7	[3]	15.2	30.7
Peas	340.1	387.7	286.6	288.4	310.9
Peas and carrots	33.3[2]	30.3[2]	10.8	7.5	10.5
Pumpkin and squash	29.7	29.0	[3]	[3]	[3]
Rhubarb	12.2	12.9	[3]	[3]	[3]
Spinach	160.0	159.5	71.9	83.3	99.3
Succotash	8.1[2]	6.2[2]	[3]	[3]	[3]
Kale	5.6	4.4	[3]	[3]	[3]
Okra	27.9	40.6	22.0	20.5	34.7
Peas, blackeye	38.0	42.0	9.8	5.5	9.9
Turnip greens	19.4	18.6	[3]	[3]	[3]
Miscellaneous vegetables	159.7	160.9	229.0	167.5	189.3
Total[4]	2,280.7	2,467.3	1,211.8	1,147.8	1,329.9
French Fried Potatoes	2,240.8	2,320.3	348.2	194.5	260.3
Other Frozen Potatoes	353.0	370.8	67.1	52.2	81.6
Total Frozen Potatoes	2,593.8	2,691.1	415.3	246.7	341.9
Grand total	4,874.6	5,158.4	1,627.1	1,394.5	1,671.8

[1] Preliminary. [2] Considered as repacks and not included in total. [3] Included in miscellaneous vegetables. [4] May not add due to rounding.

n.a.—not available. Pack data from American Frozen Food INstitute. Stocks from Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11—Vegetables, fresh: Average prices received by farmers, per hundredweight, United States, September 15, 1974 with comparisons

Commodity	1973		1974		
	August	September	July	August	September 1-15
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Beans, snap	16.00	16.90	15.70	16.80	17.70
Broccoli	14.70	15.20	17.70	17.60	16.90
Cabbage	6.53	7.71	5.07	4.04	4.07
Cantaloups	6.53	6.12	9.19	9.54	9.36
Carrots	7.89	7.88	8.24	8.28	8.81
Cauliflower	16.30	14.60	19.50	19.10	18.80
Celery	7.63	5.89	8.91	5.20	7.37
Corn, sweet	5.58	6.89	8.76	7.89	6.75
Cucumbers	6.19	10.60	10.00	8.96	8.52
Lettuce	6.34	5.59	7.28	6.00	5.80
Onions	6.23	5.57	6.09	7.04	6.59
Peppers, green	12.20	12.00	11.90	12.60	12.90
Spinach	16.70	17.30	16.40	16.60	16.00
Tomatoes	13.30	10.60	16.60	15.00	12.40
Watermelons	2.24	2.32	3.50	4.38	5.07

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12—Fresh and Processed Vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1973 and 1974

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price	Marketing margin		Farm value[1] [2]	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail value	Absolute	Percentage of retail value
	Cents	*Cents*	*Percent*	*Cents*	*Percent*
Fresh:					
Carrots (Pound)					
July 1974	25.6	15.9	62	9.7	38
June 1974	24.8	14.8	60	10.0	40
July 1973	23.3	13.6	58	9.7	42
Celery (Pound)					
July 1974	29.0	20.0	69	9.0	31
June 1974	24.3	17.5	72	6.8	28
July 1973	28.8	19.3	67	9.5	33
Lettuce (Head)					
July 1974	53.7	34.9	65	18.8	35
June 1974	59.3	37.6	63	21.7	37
July 1973	57.7	37.3	65	20.4	35
Onions, dry yellow (Pound)					
July 1974	21.4	16.6	78	4.8	22
June 1974	22.3	18.0	81	4.3	19
July 1973	24.5	17.3	71	7.2	29
Processed:[3]					
Beets, sliced, canned (303 can)					
June 1974	29.2	27.6	95	1.6	5
March 1974	28.0	26.4	94	1.6	6
June 1973	26.6	25.5	96	1.1	4
Potatoes, F.F., Frozen (9 oz. pkg.)					
July 1974	22.9	12.4	54	10.5	46
Apr. 1974	20.3	9.8	48	10.5	52
July 1973	18.0	14.6	81	3.4	19
Sauerkraut, canned (303 can)					
June 1974	30.0	27.9	93	2.1	7
March 1974	29.1	27.0	93	2.1	7
June 1973	24.8	22.9	92	1.9	8
Tomatoes, canned (303 can)					
July 1974	31.2	27.5	88	3.7	12
Apr. 1974	29.5	25.8	87	3.7	13
July 1973	26.6	23.3	88	3.3	12

[1] For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers: Because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. Fresh: F.o.b. shipping point price, Processed: Equivalent packing housedoor returns.

[2] Production areas: Carrots-California, Celery-California, Lettuce-California, Onions-Texas, Canned Beets-New York, Frozen F.F. Potatoes-Maine, Canned Sauerkraut-New York, Canned Tomatoes-Eastern States. [3] Priced quarterly.

Table 13—Potatoes, Irish: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1972, 1973, and indicated 1974

Season group	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest						
	1972	1973[1]	1974	1972	1973[1]	Indicated 1974	1972	1973[1]	Indicated 1974
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*cwt.*	*cwt.*	*cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*
Winter	15.4	14.0	13.7	151	204	214	2,327	2,853	2,933
Spring	95.8	98.9	99.9	219	214	236	21,011	21,213	23,566
Summer	130.9	125.1	130.4	182	172	189	23,776	21,478	24,632
Fall									
8 Eastern	223.9	233.2	243.1	230	211	250	51,431	49,327	60,886
8 Central	300.2	317.6	328.2	183	177	192	55,029	56,115	63,169
8 Western	487.6	515.8	569.4	292	285	286	142,381	148,424	162,581
Total	1,011.7	1,066.6	1,140.7	246	238	251	248,841	253,866	286,636
United States	1,253.8	1,304.6	1,384.7	236	230	243	295,955	299,410	337,767

[1] Revised.

Crop production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 14—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1973 and 1974

Shipping point and variety	1973			1974		
	August 18	September 15	October 6	August 17	September 14	October 5
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
New Jersey Round whites	5.37	5.25	5.42	4.10	4.10	3.30
Long Island, N.Y., Round whites	5.84	5.24	5.72	4.62	4.30	3.84
Michigan Round whites	6.28	---	6.16	3.68	4.34	3.74
Minnesota Reds	5.95	4.26	4.26	4.64	4.15	4.72
Colorado Reds	---	4.90	---	4.38	4.75	—
Washington Norgolds	6.80	5.50	6.15	7.00	6.48	6.44
Washington Russets	---	---	6.22	---	---	7.00

F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices for the week ended on indicated date. Compiled from Market News Service reports.

Table 15—Potatoes: U.S. average price received by farmers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1973 and 1974

	1973			1974		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
U.S. farm price	7.47	4.76	3.24	6.34	4.97	4.15
Parity price	4.11	4.32	4.29	4.90	5.23	5.30
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Price as percent of parity	182	110	76	129	95	78

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 16—Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production annual 1972, 1973, and indicated 1974

	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest			Indi-			Indi-
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	cated 1974	1972	1973	cated 1974
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*cwt.*	*cwt.*	*cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*
Central Atlantic[1]	10.5	11.1	11.3	124	138	139	1,298	1,535	1,574
Lower Atlantic[2]	34.0	34.5	38.5	137	127	134	4,660	4,385	5,173
Central[3]	64.1	61.2	64.7	90	93	91	5,741	5,686	5,873
California	5.8	6.4	6.0	130	145	140	754	928	840
United States	114.4	113.2	120.5	109	111	112	12,453	12,534	13,460

[1] New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. [2] North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. [3] Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 17—Sweetpotatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1973 and 1974

Item	State	Unit	Week ended			
			1973		1974	
			Sept. 15	Oct. 6	Sept. 14	Oct. 5
			Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
F.o.b. shipping points						
Porto Rico type, uncured	Eastern North Carolina points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	4.56	4.94	4.81	4.25
Porto Rico type, uncured	Southern Louisiana points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	5.38	5.38	5.38	5.00
Porto Rico type, Garnet	Stockton, California	40 lb. ctn.	---	6.60	---	7.10
			Tuesday			
			1973		1974	
			Sept. 11	Oct. 9	Sept. 10	Oct. 8
			Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Terminal markets						
New York						
Porto Rico, uncured	North Carolina	50 lb. ctn.	5.75	6.25	6.00	5.50
Chicago						
Porto Rico, uncured	Louisiana	50 lb. ctn.	6.65	7.00	6.75	6.75

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 18—U.S. average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, indicated periods, 1973 and 1974

Commodity	1973			1974		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
	Dollars	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*	*Dollars*
Field crops:						
Sweetpotatoes	11.30	7.30	6.25	9.55	7.85	7.35
Beans, dry edible	15.50	17.90	17.90	30.50	28.30	21.50
Peas, dry field	10.30	14.50	17.10	—	15.70	13.10

Agricultural Price, SRS, USDA, issued mothly.

Table 19—Dry edible beans: Supply and disposition[1]

Marketing season beginning September 1	Beginning stocks Sept.	Supplies		Utilization				
		Production	Imports[2]	Total	Domestic disappearance	Exports[3]	Total Disappearance	Ending stocks Aug. 31
	Million cwt.	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*	*Million cwt.*
Average								
1950-54	5.3	15.8	.2	21.3	14.8	2.7	17.5	3.8
1955-59	1.6	17.5	.1	19.2	14.9	3.1	18.0	1.2
1960-64	1.6	18.5	.1	20.2	15.7	2.7	18.6	1.6
1965	1.2	16.5	.1	17.8	14.2	2.4	16.6	1.2
1966	1.2	20.0	.1	21.3	15.3	3.8	19.1	2.2
1967	2.2	15.2	.1	17.5	14.4	2.0	16.4	1.1
1968	1.1	17.4	.1	18.6	14.4	2.7	17.1	1.5
1969	1.5	18.9	.1	20.5	14.5	4.3	18.8	1.7
1970	1.7	17.4	.1	19.2	14.2	3.3	17.5	1.7
1971	1.7	15.9	.1	17.7	13.8	2.8	16.6	1.1
1972	1.1	18.1	.1	19.3	14.3	4.3	18.6	.7
1973	.7	16.9	.5	18.1	14.3	3.1	17.4	.7
1974[4]	.7	20.9	.1	21.7	---	---	---	---

[1] Source: SRS, Bureau of the Census and policy and Program Appraisal Division, ASCS. [2] Imports include Garbanzos and all beans for seed purposed but exclude Mung Beans. [3] Exports include Garbanzos, baked beans, all beans for seed purposes and donations to welfare agencies for foreign relief. [4] Preliminary.

Table 20—Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1972, 1973, and indicated 1974[1]

Group, State and classes	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production[2]		
	Harvested		For harvest						
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	Indicated 1974	1972	1973	Indicated 1974
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*
Michigan	605	590	630	1,180	970	1,250	7,139	5,723	7,875
New York	36	39	43	850	950	1,200	306	371	516
Northwest[3]	387	389	498	1,649	1,620	1,621	6,380	6,303	8,075
Southwest[4]	217	211	201	845	805	867	1,833	1,698	1,742
California:									
Large lima	26	31	33	1,810	1,720	1,750	471	533	578
Baby lima	18	20	23	1,760	1,890	1,900	317	378	437
Other	113	110	166	1,480	1,634	1,600	1,672	1,797	2,656
Total California	157	161	222	1,567	1,681	1,654	2,460	2,708	3,671
Other States		8	12		1,080	1,435		83	165
United States	1,402	1,398	1,606	1,292	1,208	1,373	18,118	16,886	22,044

[1] Includes beans grown for seed. [2] Cleaned basis. [3] Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota. [4] Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 21—Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1972, 1973, and indicated 1974[1]

State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For Harvest			Indi-			Indi-
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	cated 1974	1972	1973	cated 1974
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*Pounds*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*	*1,000 cwt.*
Minnesota	6.0	4.0	1.0	1,300	1,300	1,200	78	52	12
North Dakota[3]	1.2	---	---	1,500	---	---	18	---	---
Idaho	50.0	48.0	89.0	1,500	1,300	1,540	750	624	1,371
Washington	74.0	81.0	124.0	1,610	1,180	1,620	1,191	956	2,009
Oregon	3.9	3.4	4.3	1,690	970	1,600	66	33	69
United States	135.1	136.4	218.3	1,557	1,221	1,585	2,103	1,665	3,461

[1] In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry. [2] Cleaned basis. [3] Estimates discontinued beginning 1973.

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